WRITTEN QUESTION E-0847/05
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to the Commission

Subject: REACH Directive

In its current version, the wording of the REACH Directive poses a number of problems that came to light over the course of the hearings held at the European Parliament.

1. Is the Commission prepared to replace the purely quantitative criterion that forms the basis of the requirement to register with more appropriate criteria pertaining to harmfulness and to the frequency/nature of contacts with humans and the environment?

2. The abundance of information that must be published on substances, preparations and processes is such that it allows crosschecking that endangers trade secrecy. In order to avoid unfair competition, could not the Commission reduce the amount of information made public?

3. Imported finished products are not subject to the requirements imposed by the REACH system, whereas European finished products will have had to fulfil these requirements at each stage of production. Does not the Commission consider that this anomaly would compromise two of the objectives of the legislation, namely the protection of human health and of the environment, and the competitiveness of European industry?