

**Question for written answer E-009485/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Kartika Tamara Liotard (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Authorisation of GMO products of animal origin

1. To what extent may businesses currently apply for authorisation of food derived from genetically modified animals?
2. Does the Commission consider it absolutely necessary that a political debate should first take place regarding the desirability of genetic modification of animals before an authorisation procedure can be initiated for GMO food of animal origin?
3. What procedures does the Commission believe must be completed before food derived from genetically modified animals is admitted to the EU market? Which organisations and political decision-making bodies does the Commission intend to consult before a GMO product of animal origin is placed on the EU market?
4. How will the Commission ensure that GMO food of animal origin which may be indistinguishable from traditional food does not enter the food chain without specific rules having been adopted on the subject and without a political debate having taken place concerning its desirability? How will the Commission ensure that the same does not happen as with cloned meat, which to this day is entering the EU market without being identified as such?
5. Will the Commission propose specific rules on GMO food of animal origin? If so, which existing legislation will be applied to it? Or will separate provisions be adopted? How does the Commission intend to regulate this field in the meantime?
6. Is a moratorium on GMO food of animal origin an option for the Commission?
7. What is the Commission's response to the fact that on the one hand, in a letter to the NGO Compassion in World Farming, the Commission asserts that genetically modified animals are protected by the General Farm Directive 98/95/EC while on the other hand, in its 'Strategy on the Welfare of Animals', the Commission writes that Directive 98/95/EC is too general to have practical effects? What protection do genetically modified animals enjoy, in practice, in the EU?