

**Question for written answer E-012463/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Christine De Veyrac (PPE)

Subject: Rise in use of the mephedrone-based drug 'Slam'

The use of 'Slam', known as the 'sex drug', is on the rise in several areas of Europe, including in particular the Languedoc-Roussillon region in south-western France. This drug is made using mephedrone, a synthetic molecule that has been banned from sale in France since December 2010. This product has a reputation for being a 'superfuel' that enables users to stay up all night and enjoy weekends of sexual marathons. It is true that this drug allows users to stay up for two days without sleeping or eating, enhances sexual performance and heightens sensations.

Despite being a banned substance, mephedrone, which is also available in tablet form, can easily be purchased online.

However, this drug has dangerous side effects, both physical and psychological. Its use has also resulted in an increase in high-risk behaviours and has contributed significantly to the recorded rise in HIV and hepatitis C infections.

In order to combat these dangers, does the Commission plan to control the spread of mephedrone-based products across EU countries and to adopt the measures needed to protect EU citizens?