

**Question for written answer E-012777/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Carl Schlyter (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Prohibition of trans fats in the EU

On 8 November, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published a new study¹ recommending the prohibition of trans fats. The FDA's study indicates that, over a 20-year period, a ban on trans fats would result in a saving of around USD 200 billion in the US. The number of heart attacks per year is expected to decrease by 20 000.

The European Parliament previously carried out a study of its own, which showed that a ban on trans fats is the single most cost-effective way to reduce cardiovascular diseases. The savings resulting from a ban on trans fats would be larger than several rescue packages.

In view of the above, and of the fact that Parliament already advocated a ban on trans fats back in 2008:

Does the Commission intend to carry out an impact assessment to explore the possibility of a ban on trans fats in the EU? If not, does it intend to take another form of action to put in place a ban on trans fats within the EU?

¹ <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2013/11/08/2013-26854/tentative-determination-regarding-partially-hydrogenated-oils-request-for-comments-and-for>