

**Question for written answer E-000626/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Rareş-Lucian Niculescu (PPE)

Subject: The side effects of certain food additives

Eating foods containing certain artificial colourings (E102 - tartrazine, E104 - quinoline yellow, E110 - sunset yellow, E122 - azorubine, E124 - cochineal red and E129 - allura red), along with E 211 - sodium benzoate, may have negative effects on child behaviour, according to studies conducted by the University of Southampton and published in the journal 'The Lancet'.

Given that E 102 has already been banned in Finland, E 122 is banned in Sweden, the use of E 129 is no longer permitted in countries such as Denmark, Belgium, France and Sweden, and that the Coca-Cola Company promised, as a result of increasing concerns expressed by consumers, that it will gradually cease to use E 211 in its products:

1. Does the Commission plan to propose changes in the contents of the list of Europe-wide authorised food additives?
2. What measures does the Commission envisage in order to make sure that consumers are better informed about the effects of such food additives?