

**Question for written answer E-003427/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Gaston Franco (PPE)

Subject: Smart Textiles

Smart textiles are currently the subject of several EU programmes. Funded under the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Development (FP7), the SimpleSkin project launched on 1 July 2013 is intended to design a specific tissue and a network of integrated sensors that monitor the user's vital signs and communicate them to a Smartphone. The EASY-IMP project, launched in mid-September by industrialists and European universities at the German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence in Kaiserslautern (DFKI), is intended to create a collaborative design and production environment for the development of smart textile products.

More recently, Professor Serge Mordon, Director of the INSERM research unit at the University Hospital of Lille, has developed a therapeutic luminous fabric that can treat certain types of cancer.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

1. Does it intend to make smart textiles one of its priorities for 2020 in the areas of research and innovation so as to promote the competitiveness of the European Union?
2. What specific support does it intend to grant to research on smart textiles in the field of health?