

**Question for written answer E-007171/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Pilar Ayuso (PPE)**

Subject: Data on mercury

In a study commissioned by the Commission in 2010 (BiPro), estimates of mercury stocks in the chlor-alkali industry were put at between 8 000 and 9 000 tonnes by 2020. In a 2014 study (Cowi, BiPro and Garrigues), that figure was put at 8 400 tonnes, which is in line with the 2010 figure.

However, in a study published on 9 June 2015 (Cowi, BIPRO) the figure is 8 000 tonnes. This is a significant discrepancy, especially given that the studies were written by the same authors.

1. Has the Commission looked into the reasons for this major discrepancy in the figures?
2. Why is the estimate in the 2015 study that much lower?