

**Question for written answer E-007172/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Pilar Ayuso (PPE)**

Subject:     Storage of mercury

In its answer to question E-005896/2016, the Commission insists on citing two studies that have already been sufficiently refuted by experts and whose conclusions run counter to the Minamata and Basel conventions.

The Commission also states that Article 13 of the new proposal is identical to Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008, as if it had received no fresh information since 2008. In fact, the Commission has an obligation under Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008 to 'keep under review ongoing research activities on safe disposal options, including solidification of metallic mercury'.

Given that the 2010 BiPro study has already been sufficiently refuted on the grounds that it had no scientific basis, why has the Commission not assessed the possibility of permanent surface storage following solidification/stabilisation?