

**Question for written answer E-009321/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Jean-Luc Mélenchon (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Commission's defence of endocrine disruptors

In December 2012, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) told experts gathered to present their opinions on substances considered to be endocrine disruptors that 'endocrine disruptors and their harmful effects should be dealt with in the same way as any other chemical which poses a danger to human health or the environment'.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) have published a joint report on endocrine disruptors which concludes that the risk assessment method traditionally used for chemical products is not suitable for endocrine disruptors.

Does the Commission intend to change the assessment guidelines used by the EFSA?

What is more, the Commission is thinking of applying the traditional 'dose-response' criterion to endocrine disruptors, which would mean taking the approach that the higher the dose of the disruptor, the more destructive its effect on cells. However, this is not always the case with hormones, as some disruptors have a harmful effect even at very low dosages.

Does the Commission intend to take scientific opinion into account before authorising any further substances of this kind?