

**Question for written answer E-004569/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Jean-Paul Denanot (S&D), Edouard Martin (S&D) and Michèle Rivasi (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: Revision of the REACH Regulation - exemptions for lead

Lead is an endocrine disruptor which can affect behaviour and neurological development. For that reason, the REACH Regulation restricts the use of lead in certain consumer goods.

Derogations have, however, been made for crystal glass and vitreous enamels, which contain lead, in order to protect the luxury jewellery craft industries. The production of glass and enamel involves lead, although it affects the health of the craftspeople working with it. No other technique or material could replace lead without lowering the quality of these products, however.

The Commission said that it would re-examine these exemptions by October 2017. If the expertise and crafts that make up the richness of French intangible cultural heritage are to be protected and the loss of jobs and know-how is to be avoided, these derogations should be prolonged.

Has the Commission been alerted to new scientific data showing the migration of lead in other working environments and/or suggesting an alternative to lead in these materials?

In the Commission's view, what can be done to preserve the crystal and enamel trades and at the same time guarantee better protection for the people working closely with these substances?