

**Question for written answer E-000801/2018
to the Commission
Rule 130
Rolandas Paksas (EFDD)**

Subject: Taking animal welfare standards into account in respect of technological advances in medical research

The Directive on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes sets standards that allow for animal testing only if it is objectively necessary, there are no alternative methods and the benefits of the research are scientifically, legally and ethically sound. Of particular importance is the proper and consistent implementation of this Directive. This should be pursued by providing proportionate and sufficient funding for the development and improvement of technologies, while abiding by animal welfare objectives, facilitating access to the necessary sources of information for those responsible for research programmes, and encouraging active cross-border cooperation in science and technology.

Does the Commission intend to improve and strengthen the guidelines for the implementation of the Directive on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes? What steps does the Commission intend to take to increase the effectiveness of the implementation of the Directive?

Are there plans to provide proportional and sufficient funding in order to create a solid basis for the development and deployment of innovative technologies, since this suggests the wider use of non-animal studies?