

**Question for written answer E-002483/2018  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Regulation of electronic cigarettes and new tobacco products

Tobacco is the biggest cause of death in Europe, and smoking-related diseases impose a heavy burden on public health systems. Amid this gloom, the use of electronic cigarettes has helped 7.5 million Europeans to quit smoking and enabled 9 million others to reduce their consumption of conventional cigarettes. The EU, on a proposal from the Commission, is now being called upon to take a stand on the regulation of electronic cigarettes in international contexts (FCTC – COP8).

Several international health organisations, including the Royal College of Physicians, Public Health England, and the US National Academy of Sciences, have already accepted that electronic cigarettes are a safer alternative to conventional cigarettes and an effective aid to giving up smoking.

- 1) Is the Commission aware of – and will it take into account – the scientific evidence that electronic cigarettes do less harm than ordinary cigarette smoking?
- 2) Can it ensure that in the above-mentioned international contexts, conventional cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, and new tobacco products will each be regulated in their own right and in a manner fully consistent with the European Tobacco Directive?