

**Question for written answer E-003813/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Emmanuel Maurel (GUE/NGL)**

**Subject:** Presence of mineral oil hydrocarbons in baby and infant milk products

On 8 October 2019, the NGO Foodwatch International published the findings of a laboratory test which detected the presence of potentially harmful mineral oil hydrocarbons in Nestlé and Novalac products.

On 5 June, the DG for Health and Food Safety stated that official controls carried out by different Member States had confirmed the presence of MOAH (mineral oil aromatic hydrocarbons) in infant food products.

MOAH and MOSH (mineral oil saturated hydrocarbons) are chemical components from crude oil, carbon, natural gas or biomass.

They could be present in food as a result of environmental pollution, used as an additive or in food packaging.

Foodwatch reported that Nestlé, Novalac, Rossmann and Humana baby milk products contain this type of mineral oil.

The European Food Safety Authority suspects mineral oil hydrocarbons to be carcinogenic and genotoxic.

1. Can the Commission confirm that it is aware of reports confirming Foodwatch International's claims?
2. If so, what measures does it intend to take to ensure that consumers are protected?