

**Question for written answer E-005460/2020**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Elena Lizzi (ID)**

**Subject:** Commission authorisation of GM soybean MON 87708 × MON 89788 × A5547-127

On 28 September, the Commission approved the import and marketing in the European Union of GM soybean MON 87708 × MON 89788 × A5547-127, which has undergone three different genetic modifications, making it tolerant to three different types of herbicides: Dicamba, Glyphosate and Glufosinate Ammonio. In 2016, the Monsanto multinational company, which has now been acquired by the German Bayer Group, applied for permission to market the product in the EU.

In its resolution of 13 May 2020, the European Parliament contested the way in which the application was approved. In the course of its eighth term, it has in fact tabled 36 resolutions opposing the marketing of GM crops and their cultivation in Europe. Since 2018 (the year in which the Bayer Group acquired Monsanto), glufosinate-ammonium has been banned in the EU because of its acknowledged plant reproductive toxicity and its possible presence in GM soybeans that are tolerant to this herbicide.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission give the reasons for its failure to take account of the objections contained in Parliament's resolution?
2. Is it not fair to say that the cultivation ban, coupled with the import authorisation, is a financial blow to European producers and small seed companies?
3. Is it a mere coincidence that authorisation has been granted during the six-month German Council presidency?