

**Question for written answer E-000446/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Animal testing free alternatives

Current rules lay down minimum requirements for the accommodation and care of animals and limit animal testing for research purposes. Animal testing for finished cosmetic products has been banned in the EU since 2004 and for cosmetic ingredients since 2009. The aim is to end the use of animals for scientific purposes by continuously replacing, reducing or refining their use in research, education and regulatory testing. However, a Commission report shows that, in 2017, approximately 12 million animals bred for animal testing were destroyed without ever having been used for that purpose.

1. Does the Commission still consider animal testing necessary to provide scientific evidence on certain diseases?
2. What research methods not involving animal testing is the Commission aware of?
3. Which EU funds and what sums will be made available to ensure the rapid development, validation and introduction of alternative, animal testing free methods, and will this also involve increased funding under Horizon Europe?