

**Question for written answer E-002941/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Roman Haider (ID)

Subject: Hidden genetically modified organisms (GMOs)

The Commission has submitted a proposal for a regulation on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques (NGTs) and their food and feed that would discontinue or simplify labelling requirements and authorisation procedures for GMOs produced by means of certain NGTs¹. In an open letter, European Action voices concerns that hidden GMOs are being authorised in the EU's food chain and that fundamental EU principles are being discarded in favour of an economic competitive advantage. It states that compatibility with the Green Deal is questionable because, for instance, of 'herbicide tolerance' and unpredictable consequences if GMOs enter the natural environment².

1. How does the Commission justify depriving EU citizens, through this proposal, of the right to know precisely where the ingredients in their food come from and thus make informed purchasing decisions?
2. If GMOs developed with certain NGTs are safe and beneficial, why is the Commission encouraging concealing their use in food production?
3. What is the Commission's assessment of the risk that more hidden GMOs will be found in the EU food chain?

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¹ https://food.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-09/gmo_biotech_ngt_proposal_2023-411_de.pdf

² <https://www.eschrama.com/european-action/open-letter-against-gmo-deregulation.html>.