

**Question for written answer P-000498/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Julie Girling (ECR)

Subject: Animal testing in the context of the REACH and Cosmetics regulations

Together with the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), the Commission has recently clarified the relationship between the marketing ban for products tested on animals under the Cosmetics Regulation ((EC) No 1223/2009) and the information requirements under the REACH Regulation ((EC) No 1907/2006).

It has made clear that the testing and marketing bans in the Cosmetics Regulation do not apply to testing required for environmental endpoints, exposure of workers or non-cosmetic uses of substances under REACH.

I have some concern that such provisions for 'exceptions' to the ban will undermine its effectiveness, and will fail to meet consumer expectations regarding a full ban.

In the case of exposure of workers, these tests and those used for consumers are the same. Since the exposure for consumers is greater, non-animal tests used to ensure consumer safety should also apply to worker safety.

I would therefore welcome a clarification from the Commission on why it considers such an exception to be necessary, and why the tests used to ensure consumer safety cannot be applied to worker safety.