

**Question for written answer E-015751/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Christel Schaldemose (S&D)

Subject: Imports of products containing harmful substances

Work on implementing REACH is well under way. Industry, consumers and authorities, however, are critical of the fact that substances that have been phased out for producers in the EU still make their way onto the EU market in imported products. That has adverse consequences for both consumers and industry. Consumers cannot be confident that products bought by them are safe to use, while, for industry, competition is distorted because cheap goods can be imported which do not comply with EU legislation.

Is that true? If it is, what is the Commission doing both to protect consumers against harmful substances in imported products and to ensure that EU industry does not face unfair competition?

Is there a need for further legislation in this area, and does the Commission intend to initiate new legislation?

Would more effective checks on imports solve the problem, and who would be responsible for those checks?