

**Question for written answer E-016024/2015**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Elisabetta Gardini (PPE)**

Subject: Animal and human cloning in China

According to numerous press reports, a number of Asian research and biotechnology institutes are planning to build the world's largest animal cloning factory in the Tianjin Economic and Technological Development Area (TEDA) in China with Chinese government funding of EUR 1.5 million, completion of the project being scheduled for the first half of 2016. One of the objectives is to clone one million head of beef cattle annually from 2020 onwards. Senior management staff have also indicated that the consortium possesses advanced human replication (including reproduction) technology and wishes to locate the necessary facilities in China, 'ready for the moment when human cloning technology is applied'.

This raises a number of highly disturbing ethical issues for Europe (according to Eurobarometer, 58 % of European citizens consider animal cloning for food to be unjustifiable) and is clearly contrary to the principles set out in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

In view of this:

Can the Commission say to what extent account is taken of such factors in the context of relations between the EU and China, including recognition of its market economy status (MES)?