

**Question for written answer E-014745/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Patrick Le Hyaric (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Industrial farm project in Bas-Rhin

At a time when Europeans are insisting on good food and environmental issues are occupying a prominent place on the international stage in anticipation of the forthcoming COP 21 in Paris, the village of Wintershouse, in the French department of Bas-Rhin, is fighting against a project to set up an industrial farm for 1 200 bull-calves. The scale of the project poses a threat to the municipality's groundwater, its environment, and hence the health of its 1 000 inhabitants.

Projects of this kind have always aroused fierce public opposition, given that their obsession with productivity is slowly killing off family farming and the jobs that it provides. Production organised along these destructive lines is destabilising ecosystems and causing more and more health crises in Europe.

1. Is the Commission aware of this project and of the many nuisances involved, and will it conduct an impact study on the operation of an industrial farm of the type proposed?
2. Does it believe the project to be compatible with its policies on sustainable agricultural development, the environment, employment, and regional life?
3. What steps could it take to halt the industrial farm project?