

**Question for written answer E-015755/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Christel Schaldemose (S&D)

Subject: Protection against nickel allergy

I have been contacted by a number of consumers who are concerned about nickel allergy and whether European legislation protects them adequately against it. The limit values which apply in the EU permit the use of nickel in quantities greater than that which causes allergic reactions. This is a problem because nickel allergy is a lifelong condition, which affects many people in Europe, causing them unnecessary discomfort. Various tests show that many products contain higher levels than permitted, and that the rule requiring coatings over nickel to remain intact for more than two years is not complied with at all by producers of consumer goods containing nickel.

1. How can it be that the use of nickel in quantities larger than that which triggers allergic reactions is permitted?
2. Are any preparations being made for revising nickel values in consumer goods?
3. Are the current measures to monitor nickel adequate, and what will the Commission do if this is not the case?