Question for written answer E-013697/2015/rev.1 to the Commission
Rule 130
Elena Gentile (S&D)

Subject: Combating the sale of abortion-inducing drugs online

Over the past few years, an ever increasing number of websites selling abortion-inducing drugs have appeared online (www.healthydancer.com, www.womenonweb.org, www.buyabortionpillx.com).

These Internet sites supply drugs which are offered on the free market for treatment of other diseases, but one possible side effect of which is miscarriage. Use of these medications alongside Ru486, the drug used in pharmacological abortion, will bring about termination of an unwanted pregnancy.

These drugs, intended to treat other diseases, can be purchased without a medical prescription, and with no form of control over how they are administered. Some of the DIY abortion kits sold online also include medicines which are vital to treat possible complications (especially for cases of severe haemorrhaging following expulsion of the embryo).

Purchasing these drugs exposes women, in particular young girls, to serious risk, including potentially fatal complications. These websites are truly gambling with women's lives in order to make money.

Is the Commission aware of this issue?

What measures does it intend to take to safeguard the health of EU citizens regarding the crossborder sale of pharmaceutical products and to provide for more stringent restrictions on the sale of these drugs online?

1080116.EN PE 569.391