

**Question for written answer E-002535/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Anja Hazekamp, Francisco Guerreiro, Eleonora Evi, Pascal Durand, Petras Auštrevičius, Tilly Metz, Sirpa Pietikäinen, David Cormand

Subject: Animal experiments: regulatory testing

In its report of 5 February 2020 entitled '2019 report on the statistics on the use of animals for scientific purposes, in the Member States of the European Union in 2015-2017', the Commission found that regulatory tests are still being conducted in four key areas where there are validated non-animal methods accepted in EU legislation.

In 2017, a total of 4 120 skin irritation tests, 814 eye irritation tests, 47 341 skin sensitisation tests and 35 172 pyrogenicity tests were conducted.

1. Can the Commission explain why so many of these tests are still being conducted?
2. What it is doing to ensure that the Member States adhere to Article 13(1) of Directive 2010/63/EU, which states 'without prejudice to national legislation prohibiting certain types of methods, Member States shall ensure that a procedure is not carried out if another method or testing strategy for obtaining the result sought, not entailing the use of a live animal, is recognised under the legislation of the Union'?