

**Question for written answer P-003327/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Werner Langen (PPE)

Subject: Planned classification of titanium dioxide

The main and most widely-used white pigment – titanium dioxide (TiO₂) – might be carcinogenic (Carcinogen₂, Inhalation), according to the Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). The Committee therefore suggests classifying the substance as such. This could have a significant impact, since millions of tonnes of titanium dioxide are used every year. It is found, inter alia, in paint, toothpaste, chewing gum, sun cream, ceramics, plastics, paper and is also used as a food additive (E171).

In view of the fact that the proposed classification is based not on the intrinsic characteristics of TiO₂ but exclusively on the particle characteristics, will the Commission answer the following questions:

- (1) What level of protection will the classification provide?
- (2) Could a better level of protection not be achieved with other regulatory measures (occupational safety, dust limit values), thereby improving the legislation?
- (3) What is the Commission's assessment of the socio-economic impact of this classification, in particular on the disposal of extractive waste which is classified as hazardous?