

# Resolution on the draft Commission implementing decision as regards the placing on the market of a genetically modified carnation (*Dianthus caryophyllus* L., line SHD-27531-4)

2016/2683(RSP) - 08/06/2016 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 430 votes to 188, with 33 abstentions, a resolution on the draft Commission implementing decision as regards the placing on the market of a genetically modified carnation (*Dianthus caryophyllus* L., line SHD-27531-4).

Parliament considered that the draft Commission implementing decision **does not fulfil the objective of health and environment protection** provided for in [Directive 2001/18/EC](#) and therefore exceeds the implementing powers provided for in this Directive.

It called on the Commission to **withdraw its draft** implementing decision.

To recall, in March 2013, a notification (reference C/NL/13/01) concerning the placing on the market of a genetically modified carnation (*Dianthus caryophyllus* L. , line SHD-27531-4), sulfonylurea-resistant plants, was submitted by Suntory Holdings Limited, Osaka, Japan, to the competent authority of the Netherlands.

Members stressed that sulfonylureas are common second-line options for management of type 2 diabetes and are associated with a higher risk of cardiovascular events compared with other antidiabetic drugs. They are **highly toxic to plants** at very low doses. Creating a market for sulfonylurea-resistant plants will encourage the worldwide use of this medicine against diabetes as a herbicide. Using a medicine for a purpose other than public health which leads to its uncontrolled spread in the ecosystems can have worldwide **detrimental effects on biodiversity** and cause chemical contamination of drinking water.

Experts have warned that the wide-spread use of sulfonylureas “could have a devastating impact on the productivity of non-target crops and the make-up of natural plant communities and wildlife food chains”.

Moreover, Members stated that the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) opinion states that the EFSA GMO Panel is aware of a food habit in certain populations to intentionally consume carnation petals as garnish. The GMO Panel **did not, however, assess the possible consequences of the intentional consumption of GM carnations by humans**. Both intentional and accidental oral intake of GM carnation flowers by animals were excluded from the EFSA opinion.