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European Union's Agency for Chemical Products (ECHA)
P.O.Box 400
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Directorate: D	
Unit: D2	

Dear members of the European Chemicals Agency,

I am writing to you in regards of the role of Monsanto's Roundup in our planet Earth and our daily lives.. The EU should limit the use of Roundup, an herbicide produced by Monsanto used in genetically modified foods. Roundup contains the active ingredient of glyphosate, which has proven to cause disruption in the environment as well as detriment to human health.

I agree with The Guardian that glyphosate should have been banned for its devastating impact on biodiversity alone. For example, the Pesticide Action Network UK found that in farmland habitats in the UK, population declines have occurred in about half of plants, a third of insects and four-fifths of bird species.

According to Forbes, Food & Water Watch found that the "total volume of glyphosate applied to the three biggest GE crops — corn, cotton and soybeans — increased 10-fold from 15 million pounds in 1996 to 159 million pounds in 2012." The fact that a great increase in herbicide use is needed proves that glyphosate isn't fulfilling its purpose. I find the increasingly excessive use of herbicide is dangerous as we could see a slippery slope.

According to greenpeace.org, studies show that Roundup (glyphosate), a form of herbicide used only by Monsanto, is toxic to earthworms, beneficial insects, birds and mammals. It also destroys the vegetation on which they depend for food and shelter. Although Monsanto states that Roundup breaks down into harmless substances, there has been no substantial evidence to support that claim. Its residue could be absorbed by plants for over a year. Furthermore, this type of herbicide not only harms the environment, but has a detrimental impact on human health as well. Natural Health Magazines writes that it causes cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, nerve, and respiratory damage. According to Organic Gardening, rabbits exposed to glyphosate had sperm production diminished by 50%, while mice experienced genetic damage in the livers and kidneys.

Although immediate effects of consuming GMOs containing glyphosate haven't necessarily been observed or made known to the public, we must reconsider the long term impacts on the grander

scale of our environment. After all, as beings of the same planet sharing the same resources, we must respect each other in order to coexist.

Sincerely,

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