

**Question for written answer E-002724/2024/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Fake recycling model

The recycling model in Spain is inefficient and opaque, evidencing a ‘recycling scam’. The managing bodies impose high fees and taxes on municipalities and citizens, amounting to EUR 1.7 billion per year. However, the effective recycling of plastics barely reaches 41 % in 2024, far from the 70 % supposedly required by the EU.

Although promoted as sustainable, the system lacks efficiency, public confidence and clear direction. Moreover, recent audits reveal that much of the waste ends up in inadequate landfills, confirming its failure. After decades and billions invested in a system promised to be efficient and sustainable, these findings raise even more doubts about its transparency and the proper use of funds. Meanwhile, citizens are paying more and more for a system that does not work, and which after years of promises, has failed to solve waste management, thereby failing to fulfil its main task and perpetuating a structural problem.

Therefore, we ask the Commission:

1. How can the Commission monitor the proper investment of funds earmarked for recycling in order to prevent abuses and ensure efficiency?
2. What measures could the Commission propose to ensure that new recycling schemes do not overburden citizens financially or harm small businesses?

Submitted: 2.12.2024