

**Question for written answer E-003029/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Further EU action regarding high-risk fireworks

Every year, thousands of accidents involving (high-risk) fireworks happen within the EU, leading to significant physical and material damage. Therefore, the Benelux countries (Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg) introduced the ‘Pyro-Pass’, a control document serving as a permit for the purchase of high-risk professional fireworks, to combat the illegal trade in pyrotechnic articles and prevent harm.¹ In May, the Benelux countries jointly advocated for more Union-wide standards and rules regarding pyrotechnic articles (including high-risk fireworks) and their availability and use.²

1. Does the Commission agree that more action is necessary to prevent firework-related accidents and damage and combat the illegal trade in pyrotechnic articles, and that further EU-level regulatory harmonisation of pyrotechnic articles and their use, sale and production in the internal market would serve this objective?
2. What is the Commission’s view of the ‘Pyro-Pass’, and does it consider that the introduction of such a permit at the EU level could contribute to a safer environment for citizens?
3. What are the conclusions of the Commission’s recent evaluation³ of Directive 2013/29/EU on pyrotechnic articles⁴, and will it propose an update to the Directive? If so, what kind of rules, and in what time frame? If not, why not, and how will it address the negative consequences of high-risk fireworks otherwise?

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¹ https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/brieven_regering/detail?id=2024D39304&did=2024D39304.

² ‘Declaration by European Ministers on the Regulation and Harmonization of Pyrotechnic Articles in the Single Market’, https://www.benelux.int/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Belgium24eu_240516_143626.pdf.

³ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2023-000004-ASW_EN.html.

⁴ Directive 2013/29/EU of 12 June 2013 on the harmonisation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making available on the market of pyrotechnic articles, OJ L 178, 28.6.2013, p. 27, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2013/29/oj>.