

**Question for written answer E-003044/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Afroditi Latinopoulou (Pfe)

Subject: Compatibility of the proposed dictatorial anti-smoking measures with individual freedom

The Commission recently proposed tougher measures to combat smoking in the EU, as part of the broader public health strategy.

While the goal of protecting public health is undoubtedly important, there are serious concerns that the measures may violate the fundamental right to individual freedom as enshrined in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. The balance between protecting public health and respecting individual freedoms is a delicate issue that requires careful consideration and dialogue.

In view of the above:

1. How does the Commission ensure that the proposed anti-smoking measures do not exceed the limits of proportionality and do not excessively infringe the individual freedom of EU citizens?
2. Has it looked at alternative approaches, such as educational programmes or incentives for stopping smoking, which could achieve similar results without restricting individual freedoms? If so, what were the conclusions reached?
3. How does it plan to ensure a balance between protecting public health and respecting individual freedoms in the context of its tobacco control policy?

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