

**Question for written answer E-001289/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Classification of clippings and prunings as waste

Directive 2008/98/EC, as amended by European Parliament legislative resolution P9_TA(2024)01451¹, establishes the legislative framework for waste management in the EU, defining the criteria for distinguishing between waste and by-products. However, clippings and prunings from public and private garden maintenance are still classed as waste, with management and administrative burdens for those working in the sector.

This classification seems to clash with the principles of the circular economy promoted in the same directive, which encourages reuse and recovery where possible. Furthermore, treating clippings and prunings as waste comes at a cost and limits their use for agricultural or landscape purposes, despite the fact that they would not even need any complex treatment to be put to good use.

In view of the above:

1. Will the Commission simplify the management of clippings and prunings to encourage their use in the circular economy?
2. Will it review their classification to take account of the directive's principles of prevention and reuse?

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¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2024-0145_EN.pdf