

Question for written answer E-002811/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Riho Terras (PPE)

Subject: Unusable stocks following the entry into force of the Commission's proposed legislation on lead ammunition

The EC's proposed legislation on lead ammunition draws a distinction between 'large-calibre' (≥ 5.6 mm) and 'small-calibre' (< 5.6 mm) centrefire bullets for hunting purposes. However, the so-called 'small-calibre' bullets are rare or non-existent in the EU, meaning that practically all lead-based centrefire ammunition for hunting would be subject to a restriction 18 months after the legislation's entry into force.

As lead ammunition cannot simply be discarded or repurposed, mainly on account of its explosive components, after the proposed transitional period of 18 months, producers, sellers and users would be left with significant unusable stocks of lead-based centrefire ammunition.

Could the Commission explain whether appropriate compensation mechanisms have been considered for affected stakeholders, who would suffer financial losses as a result of being left with unusable stocks of lead-based centrefire ammunition after 18 months?

Submitted: 9.7.2025