

**Question for written answer E-004016/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Strengthening EU action to prevent silicosis in the workplace and protect workers

More than 3.2 million people in the EU are exposed to crystalline silica dust at work. In some Member States, silicosis continues to affect workers in sectors such as mining, quarrying and artificial stone processing. Alarming reports confirm an increase in new cases among younger workers, who then have to contend with a chronic and irreversible disease at the start of their working life. In addition to destroying one's health, this disease also disrupts families and communities, putting a heavy emotional and financial burden on national health systems.

In view of the above:

1. What measures is the Commission taking to improve prevention, monitoring and early detection of silicosis across the EU, in cooperation with the Member States?
2. How does it intend to strengthen the occupational health and safety regulations, ensuring more stringent exposure limits for respirable crystalline silica, in line with the latest scientific evidence?
3. What funding and support mechanisms are available in the EU to improve research, medical care, compensation and social protection for workers affected by silicosis?

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