

**Question for written answer E-004362/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Giuseppe Antoci (The Left)

Subject: Italy's nitazene overdose case, Europe's early warning system and the EU's internal security

It has been established that the death of a 30-year-old man from Brunico was the first nitazene-related death to occur in Italy. Though the victim died around a year ago, it took a long forensic investigation and the suspected dealer's arrest to establish the cause of his death. It appears that he acquired the nitazenes that killed him on the dark web¹.

The EUDA website's FAQ mentions the existence of a number of nitazene overdose hotbeds in Europe.

The situation is escalating rapidly in the Baltic states: in Estonia and Latvia, nitazenes have been responsible for a raft of deaths since 2022. There have also been reports of nitazene-related fatalities and acute toxicity cases in France, Germany, Sweden and Norway.

The EUDA has highlighted that these opioids are a growing cause for concern because of the number of overdoses they are causing, while its 2025 reports stress the need to strengthen the EU's monitoring and early warning systems and improve the operational readiness of its services.

Having regard for its proposal for a regulation on Union support for internal security for 2028-2034, could the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Are there measures in place to help the competent authorities speed up the process of determining whether a drug-related death was caused by nitazenes?
2. How will the aforementioned proposal (COM (2025) 542) address the threat posed by online marketplaces and the dark web, strengthen forensic capabilities and improve checks on small packages delivered by postal and courier services?

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¹ <https://www.rainews.it/articoli/2025/10/nitazeni-la-nuova-droga-sintetica-e-arrivata-in-italia-primo-morto-di-overdose-3b0b0d9f-3f14-491f-ac25-387291744abf.html>.