

Question for written answer E-004861/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Committee for Socio-economic Analysis opinion delays and implications for the adoption of the EU-wide PFAS restriction

There are major concerns about per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Some Member States have taken the lead and initiated national measures to restrict some of their uses.

The Commission's response to a previous question was that 'such measures are more efficient if taken at EU level by the established restriction procedure supported by a solid assessment by the scientific committees of the European Chemicals Agency'.

A dossier for an EU-wide restriction of PFAS was submitted by five national authorities in January 2023. We are now waiting for the opinions of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). In accordance with Article 71 of the Regulation on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), the Committee for Socio-economic Analysis (SEAC) has 12 months to adopt its opinion. However, according to ECHA, SEAC is not expected to adopt its final opinion until the end of 2026. This will be almost two years after the legal deadline. In accordance with Article 73(1) of REACH, the Commission is obliged to prepare a draft restriction within three months of the receipt of the SEAC opinion.

Action against PFAS is long overdue, both in substance and legally.

Can the Commission give a commitment to respect the three-month legal deadline after receipt of the SEAC opinion and thus to present a draft restriction by March 2027 at the latest?

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