

**Question for written answer E-004944/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Marc Botenga (The Left)

Subject: Unsubstantiated claims by the Commission regarding the impact of EU sanctions on public health

Scientific literature highlights the severe public health consequences of unilateral sanctions on targeted countries. The Commission has repeatedly been asked whether it has any evidence to the contrary¹²³.

In response, the Commission has essentially stated that ‘EU sanctions never target the civilian population’, that ‘many reasons’ may explain such findings, and even that EU sanctions ‘ensure that public health and safety are not negatively affected’. However, these claims remain wholly unsubstantiated, shedding doubt on their credibility.

1. What independent sources does the Commission rely on that substantiate its claims?
2. Does the Commission have any study or impact assessment that contradicts the cited scientific literature and demonstrates that EU sanctions do not negatively affect public health in low- and middle-income countries?

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¹ Written Question E-003081/2025, ‘The impact of EU sanctions on public health, especially in low- and middle-income countries’, 24 July 2025, https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-003081_EN.html.

² Written Question E-004011/2025, ‘Follow-up to the question on the impact of EU sanctions on public health, especially in low- and middle-income countries’, 13 October 2025, https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-004011_EN.html.

³ Written Question E-004012/2025, ‘Commission claims regarding the negative consequences of EU sanctions on the Iranian people’, 13 October 2025, https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-004012_EN.html.