

**Question for written answer E-003430/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Cynthia Ní Mhurchú (Renew)

Subject: Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation and its red tape on small businesses

1. Given the Commission's responsibility and stated commitment to reducing unnecessary administrative burdens and red tape for businesses, and given that competitiveness is a key priority of the Irish Presidency of the Council, what action will the Commission take to address the disproportionate administrative and financial burden imposed by the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation on small and micro-enterprises, particularly those engaged in cross-border and e-commerce trade?
2. In particular, why are small businesses required to register separately and pay compliance fees in each Member State in which they sell or ship products, often incurring the same fixed compliance costs as significantly larger companies?
3. Will the Commission consider introducing simplified, proportionate and EU-wide compliance arrangements, including exemptions or reduced obligations for micro-enterprises, in order to prevent small businesses from being forced to scale back cross-border trade or withdraw from the EU market altogether?

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