Question for written answer E-003605/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: EU exports of banned pesticides

In its chemicals strategy for sustainability published in 2020[1], the Commission committed to ‘lead by example’ and ‘ensure that hazardous chemicals banned in the European Union are not produced for export’.

Yet no legislative proposal has followed, despite an impact assessment that has reportedly been completed but not made public.

Meanwhile, exports of pesticides banned for use in the EU continue to rise. In 2024, the EU exported around 122 000 tonnes of such pesticides, 50 % more than in 2018.

UN Special Rapporteurs have criticised this double standard for exposing vulnerable populations to hazardous chemicals and undermining the right to a clean and healthy environment. Furthermore, these exports create a ‘boomerang effect’, as residues of banned pesticides can return to the EU through imported food.

1. Will the Commission finally honour its commitment to ‘lead by example’ and present legislation to prohibit the production and export of pesticides banned in the EU? If not, why not?

2. Given the significant commercial interests involved, what measures is the Commission taking to prevent undue corporate influence and safeguard public trust in its decision-making on this issue?

3. Will the Commission publish without delay the full impact assessment and related studies, which are financed with public funds?

Submitted: 10.9.2026

[1] Commission communication of 14 October 2020 entitled ‘Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability Towards a Toxic-Free Environment’ (COM(2020)/0667).