

**Question for written answer E-003715/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Hanna Gedin (The Left)

Subject: EU rules on packaging responsibility

The new EU rules on packaging responsibility (PPWR and EPR) came into force on 12 August. They have raised widespread concerns among microenterprises, who fear that they will render their activities unprofitable. The new rules, which set the same thresholds and impose the same administrative and fee requirements on individual artists as they do on e-commerce giants such as Amazon, may end up driving microenterprises and sole traders out of business.

We are essentially in favour of the Packaging Regulation imposing tighter requirements on businesses and setting ambitious environmental targets, but we are concerned that the fact that the legislation is not proportional will hit small-scale operators – who are already using sustainable alternatives to mass production – the hardest, and could stifle unique, local creativity.

1. Does the Commission think it would be appropriate to introduce an exemption for microenterprises with regard to administration and fees?
2. How does the Commission intend to strengthen the conditions and opportunities for micro- and small-business owners operating in the EU?

Submitted: 16.9.2026