

**Priority question for written answer P-000698/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: EU's defence and security: restriction on lead in ammunition under the REACH Regulation

The EU's defence and security priorities are high on the political agenda. At the same time, the Commission is still assessing the opinion of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) on restricting all lead in ammunition for outdoor hunting and shooting activities. With this in mind:

1. Is the Commission aware that restricting the civilian use of lead in ammunition will affect the ability of European ammunition manufacturers to produce small calibre ammunition at the required scale for military purposes?
2. Is the Commission aware that most shooting ranges in Europe cannot meet the proposed derogation conditions specified in ECHA's opinion and lack the financial resources for the required reconstruction, and that imposing these conditions would therefore result in the large-scale closure of shooting ranges and collapse of training opportunities¹?
3. Given that civilian shooting ranges are also used for training military forces (including voluntary military training) and law enforcement (using small calibre ammunition) in several Member States, how does the Commission address the risk that this restriction could undermine national security training capabilities?

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¹ <https://www.shootingforum.eu/reportranges>.