

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002984/24
to the Commission
Emma Fourreau (The Left)
(17 December 2024)**

Subject: The Commission's stance on banning glue traps

Glue traps are extremely cruel products that are easy to purchase in the EU.

A 2022 British study found that rodents stuck in glue traps for hours experience 'extreme' suffering, eventually dying of hunger, thirst or exhaustion. Some even gnaw at their own limbs or break their bones trying to escape. Glue can also get into rodents' eyes, as well as their mucous membranes, causing death by suffocation.

On the packaging, manufacturers claim that these products are not lethal traps but rather 'simple' trapping devices in accordance with Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/1532 of 7 September 2017. But it is clear that many animals die before the traps are checked. Furthermore, glue trapping is a non-selective method, meaning that many different animals can get caught in the traps, including protected species.

Several European countries have already revised their legislation: Belgium, Spain, Iceland, Wales and England have banned the use of these products, while Ireland and Scotland have banned their sale.

Will the Commission consider banning the use, sale or manufacture of glue traps?

Submitted: 17.12.2024

**Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(17 March 2025)**

While glue traps are mentioned as non-chemical alternatives to the uses of anticoagulant rodenticides in Table 3 of Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/1532 ⁽¹⁾ and in Commission Implementing Decision 2024/816 ⁽²⁾ (referred to as 'glue boards'), their making available on the market and use are not covered by Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 ⁽³⁾ on biocidal products nor by any other EU legal instrument.

Their regulation is, therefore, under the remit of each Member State. The Commission is not currently considering banning the use, sale or manufacture of glue traps.

⁽¹⁾ http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2017/1532/oj

⁽²⁾ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2024/816/oj/eng

⁽³⁾ Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2012 concerning the making available on the market and use of biocidal products (OJ L 167, 27.6.2012, p. 1; ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2012/528/oj>).