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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
(16.2.2026)

The Commission takes the concerns expressed in the question of the Honourable Members very seriously and is fully committed to address the pollution caused by per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and will seek to advance as rapidly as possible on the initiative of the five national authorities to restrict PFAS to protect the health of EU citizens and the environment. The Commission has already shared in its Chemical Industry Action Plan¹ of 8 July 2025 certain basic orientations in the interests of clarity and predictability.

Due to the unprecedented size, scope and complexity of this restriction proposal, the European Chemicals Agency requires additional time beyond that originally foreseen in the legal provisions of the Regulation on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals² to complete its assessment and issue its final scientific opinion, expected by the end of 2026.

On this basis, the Commission will prepare a well-balanced Commission restriction proposal. The Commission is confident that the manufacture and use of PFAS in the EU will be subject to a robust, proportionate and science-based regulatory approach, in order to protect human health and the environment while safeguarding critical industrial applications and critical industries.

In addition, it should be noted that, as stipulated in the Chemical Industry Action Plan, the Commission is pursuing a comprehensive strategy to support the transition away from PFAS. This strategy combines regulation with other measures. Moreover, one of the objectives of the ECHA Regulation as well as of current reflections about the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) is to lift bottlenecks and accelerate procedures.

¹ COM(2025) 530 final - <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52025DC0530>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:02006R1907-20250901>.