

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004943/25  
to the Commission**

**Tomáš Zdechovský (PPE), Jan Farský (PPE), Christine Singer (Renew), Alexandr Vondra (ECR), Ondřej Krutílek (ECR), Jana Nagyová (PřE), Ondřej Knotek (PřE), Markus Ferber (PPE)**  
(15 December 2025)

**Subject:** Procedural gaps and the agricultural and supply-chain impact of the proposed REACH restriction on calcium cyanamide

Calcium cyanamide ( $\text{CaCN}_2$ , ~~alkalischstickstoff~~) has been under the REACH restriction procedure since 2019. In 2021, the European Chemicals Agency recommended banning its use as a fertiliser, even though its socioeconomic assessment questioned the necessity and proportionality of a full ban. Two public consultations produced 122 contributions from Member States and non-EU countries, which largely found the ban to be disproportionate and warned about the impact on niche fertiliser availability and the viability of  $\text{CaCN}_2$  production within the EU. Nevertheless, in April 2025 the Commission tabled a largely identical restriction proposal with transitional periods of around five to six years, despite repeated Member State concerns about gaps in the impact assessment.

1. How did the Commission incorporate consultation feedback and Member State concerns about the incomplete impact assessment, and why was no updated socioeconomic and impact analysis presented before the April 2025 proposal?
2. What specific alternatives to a full fertiliser ban did the Commission assess (e.g. restricting the use of  $\text{CaCN}_2$  to professionals, tighter application conditions, targeted crop or regional derogations or mandatory training and monitoring), and on which evidence-based criteria were they rejected?
3. How will the Commission monitor the effects during the transition period on EU agricultural production and fertiliser availability and prices, and under what predefined conditions would it revise the proposal?

Submitted: 15.12.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné on behalf of the European Commission**  
(11 February 2026)

The proposed restriction is built on the opinion of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and its Committee for Risk assessment (RAC) and Committee for Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC), which concluded on risks to the environment that cannot be adequately controlled and recommended a full ban.

RAC and SEAC thoroughly considered the comments received in two public consultations, noting however that most submissions contained data for which the robustness could not be assessed.

Alternatives such as (i) proposing other restriction options, or (ii) acting under other EU legislation were considered, but discarded because they would not address the identified risks as effectively as the proposed restriction.

Having carefully considered the possible direct and indirect impacts of the restriction, the Commission proposed to double the time before the restriction starts applying, to give the sole EU manufacturer of calcium cyanamide enough time to repurpose its production and reduce the economic impacts.

Since the adoption of the ECHA opinion in 2021, the evolving geopolitical context prompted Member States to further reflect on possible indirect effects of this restriction, particularly on defence capacity.

They exceptionally asked the Commission to request additional economic data from the affected company and complement the current socioeconomic assessment. Once received, the data will be assessed to further inform the decision-making process.

Fertilisers' availability and prices are regularly monitored by the Commission through the Fertilisers Market Observatory <sup>(1)</sup>. While there are no predetermined conditions for revising an adopted restriction, the Commission can review and amend it at any time, should there be the need.

---

<sup>(1)</sup> Forum in the shape of a Commission expert group responsible for the identification, collection, exchange, and dissemination of fertiliser markets data as well as short-term analyses on prices, trade, and production.