

EN
E-001150/2026
Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(11.5.2026)

The Commission is aware of the environmental concerns raised by the Honourable Member, both through petitions submitted to the European Parliament and related correspondence. These claims have been thoroughly examined but have not led to the opening of an infringement procedure, in accordance with the principles set out below.

The Waste Framework Directive¹ requires Member States to ensure that waste is managed without endangering human health and without harming the environment, and in line with the waste hierarchy which prioritises waste prevention, reuse and recycling. In addition, the Directive promotes the recovery of construction and demolition waste, including through selective demolition and high-quality recycling. Where asphalt contains hazardous substances, such as tar, additional requirements under EU waste and chemicals legislation may apply.

Without prejudice to the Commission's role as the guardian of the Treaties, Member States are primarily responsible for ensuring compliance with EU law. In line with its strategic approach on enforcement action, which focuses on cases of systemic non-compliance², the Commission considers that the means of redress available under national legislation would be the most appropriate mechanism to address individual cases of possible non-compliance such as this one. In this respect, the competent national and regional authorities are responsible for authorising, monitoring and enforcing compliance with the applicable rules and are best placed to assess the specific circumstances of the case.

¹ Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on waste and repealing certain Directives, OJ L 312, 22.11.2008, p. 3–30, as amended by Directive (EU) 2018/851 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May, OJ L 150, 14.6.2018, p. 109–140 and Directive (EU) 2025/1892 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 September 2025 amending Directive 2008/98/EC on waste, OJ L, 2025/1892, 26.9.2025.

² Communication from the Commission - EU law: Better results through better application, OJ C 18, 19.1.2017, p. 10–20, and Communication from the Commission - Enforcing EU law for a Europe that delivers, 13.10.2022, COM(2022) 518 final.