

EN

E-001152/2026

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
(27.5.2026)

The draft restriction proposal on lead in ammunition, like most restrictions under the Regulation on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH)¹, is based on publicly available opinions² of the European Chemical Agency's scientific committees, including a cost/benefit assessment and possible risk management measures.

Based on the Agency's opinion, bullets provide a minor contribution to the lead emissions targeted by the restriction. Delaying the application of the restriction to bullets by extending certain transitional periods by up to 5 years will only decrease by 0.12 % (-675 tonnes in total) the total emission savings expected from the restriction (558 000 tonnes over 20 years), as these savings mostly come from the proposed measures restricting lead gunshot. Even if, after discussions with the Member States, lead bullets would be excluded from the scope of the restriction, this would only decrease the total emission savings by 1.5% (-8 232 tonnes over 20 years). Consequently, extending the transitional periods for bullets, or even excluding bullets from the scope, would have a very limited impact on the overall effectiveness of the restriction measured as emission savings. Against this background, the proposed restriction still ensures a high level of protection of human health and the environment from exposure to lead. The Commission is discussing this proposal with the Member States in the REACH committee with the aim of reaching consensus.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:02006R1907-20251023>.

² <https://echa.europa.eu/registry-of-restriction-intentions/-/dislist/details/0b0236e1840159e6>.