

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002219/26
to the Commission
Nicolás González Casares (S&D)
(1 June 2026)**

Subject: Rise in cases of severe pulmonary injury linked to vaping products and the need for an EU-wide adverse effects registry

Clinical toxicologists have highlighted the first documented case in Spain of severe pulmonary haemorrhage associated with vaping (EVALI — e-cigarette or vaping product use-associated lung injury). Medical specialists have warned that there may be a great many more undiagnosed cases across Europe.

Scientific literature and clinical reports have already documented severe and, in some cases, fatal EVALI-related incidents in several European countries, including Belgium, France, Italy, Sweden, Iceland and the United Kingdom. At the same time, youth vaping rates continue to rise sharply in a number of Member States, with experts warning of the harmful effects of both nicotine dependence among adolescents and increasing exposure to nicotine products.

1. Is the Commission aware of the increasing number of cases of severe pulmonary injury and haemorrhage linked to vaping and other novel nicotine products in the EU?
2. Is the Commission currently working on, or planning to establish, a European-wide registry or surveillance mechanism for adverse health effects associated with vaping products and emerging nicotine devices?
3. Given the growing evidence of serious health risks, why has the Commission not acted with greater urgency regarding the revision of the Tobacco Products Directive ⁽¹⁾ and the strengthening of EU-wide monitoring and reporting systems for these products?

Submitted: 1.6.2026

**Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(3 September 2026)**

The Commission is aware of the health risks of electronic cigarettes, alongside rising prevalence among youth and it continuously monitors market and scientific developments related to these products.

The Commission and its agencies support several surveys to monitor electronic cigarettes such as the Eurobarometer ⁽¹⁾ and the European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs ⁽²⁾.

Additionally, the Scientific Committee on Health, Environmental and Emerging Risks has assessed the health impacts of electronic cigarettes, including respiratory risks, in its 2021 opinion ⁽³⁾.

The Commission recently finalised an evaluation ⁽⁴⁾ of the Tobacco Products Directive 2014/40/EU and the Tobacco Advertising Directive 2003/33/EC.

The evaluation was informed by a report prepared by the Joint Research Centre ⁽⁵⁾, which also reported findings on the association of respiratory disease with electronic cigarette use.

The evaluation concluded that the emergence and rapid increase in the use of novel tobacco and nicotine products pose new challenges to public health. Beyond their direct health risks, these products may act as a gateway to nicotine addiction and traditional tobacco use/smoking ⁽⁶⁾.

¹ Directive 2014/40/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 April 2014 on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States concerning the manufacture, presentation and sale of tobacco and related products and repealing Directive 2001/37/EC (OJ L 127, 29.4.2014, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2014/40/oj>).

⁽¹⁾ Eurobarometer <https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/2995>.

⁽²⁾ European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ESPAD) https://www.euda.europa.eu/publications/data-factsheets/espade-2024-key-findings_en.

⁽³⁾ SCHEER (Scientific Committee on Health, Environmental and Emerging Risks), Scientific Opinion on electronic cigarettes, 16 April 2021 https://health.ec.europa.eu/document/download/50b3adac-5451-47c1-8427-ea67e874c970_en.

⁽⁴⁾ Evaluation of the legislative framework for tobacco control https://health.ec.europa.eu/tobacco/evaluation-legislative-framework-tobacco-control_en.

⁽⁵⁾ Report on health outcomes associated with the use of e-cigarettes, heated tobacco products, and nicotine pouches <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC146139>.

⁽⁶⁾ Executive summary of the evaluation of the Tobacco Products Directive (2014/40/EU), the Tobacco Advertising Directive (2003/33/EC) and other related tobacco control policies across the EU, SWD(2026) 111 final, p.2.

The Commission intends to propose, in 2026, a revision of the legislative framework on tobacco control. It is carrying out an impact assessment and continues the wide-scale consultation process.
