

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-001351/26
to the Commission
Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy (Renew)
(1 April 2026)**

Subject: Accelerating the PFAS restriction proposal

On 26 March 2026, the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and the Socio-Economic Assessment Committee (SEAC) finalised their scientific advisory work and published their findings, suggesting that there is a public health emergency and confirming that a broad per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) ban is necessary, as no safe level of emissions exists.

In the light of this:

1. Does the Commission agree that the conclusions of the ECHA and the SEAC are clear, confirming the need for a PFAS ban, allowing only very limited essential-use exemptions and that such a proposal should be presented without delay?
2. A study commissioned by the Commission's Directorate-General for Environment estimates that the current PFAS pollution costs amount to approximately EUR 440 billion for the EU. Does the Commission agree that any delay in a legislative proposal will impose avoidable costs on the EU's economy and society?
3. Is the Commission willing and able to reduce the delay resulting from the formal public consultation and impact assessments?

Submitted: 1.4.2026

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

The Commission welcomes the adoption of the final opinion by the Risk Assessment Committee (RAC) on the proposed universal per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) restriction under the REACH Regulation⁽¹⁾ and the launch of the consultation on the draft opinion of the Committee for Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC).

The Commission will not prepare a legislative proposal. In accordance with the applicable procedure (regulatory procedure with scrutiny), the Commission will present a draft Commission Regulation to the REACH Committee, composed of representatives of the Member States, for discussion and a subsequent vote (qualified majority voting), after which the European Parliament and the Council retain the right of scrutiny.

The Commission will base its draft restriction on the final opinions of the Agency and the final restriction dossier prepared by the five national authorities that submitted the dossier, including the comments received during the two consultations.

Therefore, no further public consultations or impact assessments by the Commission are planned. The Commission may also take into account other available, reliable information, where relevant.

The proposed restriction is exceptionally broad in scope (thousands of substances across a wide range of sectors/uses) which has contributed to the time required for the scientific assessment underpinning the Agency's opinions.

As the Agency's work is ongoing, the Commission cannot anticipate the conclusions of the final SEAC opinion. As indicated in the Chemicals Industry Action Plan, the Commission is committed to presenting a proposal, as soon as possible after receiving the final opinions from the Agency, with the overall objective of minimising PFAS emissions.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:02006R1907-20090627>.