Question for written answer E-002495/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Flavio Zanonato (S&D)

Subject: Asbestos in the old 'Vaserie Trevigiane' works

The 'Vaserie Trevigiane' works, founded at Quinto di Treviso in 1959, were closed in February 2010. In the five years since then, the cement and asbestos cladding used in the buildings has deteriorated, creating health problems for local residents.

Despite the many initiatives aimed at rehabilitating the buildings, and the report by Treviso local health unit No 9 which stressed the area's potential dangers, all that the municipal council has done is to padlock the entrance to the works.

EU rules on guarding against asbestos risks, especially as regards its disposal and the protection of workers, are a cornerstone of the EU's environmental and health policies.

Directive 2009/148/EC sets very specific targets for reducing worker exposal and for overall risk reduction.

Would the Commission consider revising that Directive by introducing further rules to safeguard not only workers but all members of the public who live and work close to buildings that are potentially dangerous owing to the presence of asbestos?

Would it consider revising the Directive by imposing stricter requirements, particularly as regards the exceptions currently allowed under Article 3 of the Directive?

Can the Commission provide information on the implementation of the Directive in the Member States and publish details of its impact (health, occupational and economic indicators)?

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