

**Question for written answer E-001435/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Bart Staes (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: Measures to improve the safety of artificial grass pitches

On 28 February 2017, ECHA, acting on the instructions of the Commission, submitted a report on the danger posed by rubber granulate in artificial grass pitches, on the basis of measurements taken on a number of such pitches. It showed that the quantity of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) present was below the CMR limit laid down under REACH, so that the risk that they might cause cancer is very slight. The same applies to other substances such as metals, phthalates, benzothiazole and methyl isobutyl ketone. However, the report does contain a number of uncertainties, and ECHA makes a number of recommendations to the Commission. Will the Commission therefore take practical measures in relation to the points below, and if so, what?

1. Amendments to REACH in order to continue to guarantee that in future concentrations of PAHs and the other aforementioned substances on artificial pitches remain low.
2. Encouragement to all owners and manufacturers of such artificial grass pitches to measure concentrations of PAHs and also to publish the findings.
3. A requirement for owners and manufacturers of such artificial grass pitches to provide adequate ventilation.