Question for written answer E-006942/2017 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Translation of the 'Major accident risks' technical report (Seveso III Directive) into the EU

official languages

The Seveso III Directive of 4 July 2012 deals with the monitoring of major accident hazards involving dangerous substances and replaced Directives 96/82/EC ('Seveso II') and 2003/105/EC as from 1 June 2015.

This year, with a view to standardising the implementation of the directive, the European Working Group on Land-Use Planning issued a 'Handbook of Scenarios for Assessing Major Chemical Accident Risks' to help authorities assess the risks associated with hazardous sites.

Regrettably, the report is available only in English, as it is not standard practice to translate non-regulatory technical documents aimed at professionals who use English as a working language and translation is in any case not recommended, as important information could be altered or lost.

As a result, in many countries, such as Italy, where very few specialists even have a sufficient knowledge of English, key documents of this kind remain inaccessible to operators in the sectors directly concerned.

With particular reference to technical reports that could play an essential and critical role in the - otherwise very difficult - implementation of directives like the one referred to above, what does the Commission intend to do to promote certified translations into the official EU languages?

Supporter¹

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