Question for written answer E-005146/2018 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: sale of fluorinated greenhouse gases through online platforms to persons and undertakings without F-gas certification

F-gases contribute to the greenhouse effect, for which reason the Commission has developed a massive 73 % reduction plan. Emissions of fluorinated greenhouse gases were estimated at 90 million tonnes (Mt) of CO₂ equivalent in 2005 and should therefore be reduced to 35 Mt of CO₂ equivalent by 2030.

Twenty Italian undertakings in the plant sector have launched legal action against Amazon, through which containers of F-gas are allegedly sold without the buyers being required to be in possession of the F-gas certification required by law.

Community legislation (Regulation (EU) No 517/2014) specifies that fluorinated greenhouse gases may only be sold to persons and undertakings holding an F-gas certification.

Operating in the F-gas sector without having the requisite certificates and illegally selling to entities without authorisation constitutes a clear act of unfair competition and fuels the illicit market while jeopardising the environment.

- 1) Is the Commission aware of this case and, if so, what is its view of it?
- 2) Has such a situation come to light in other Member States?
- 3) Does the Commission intend to safeguard authorised resellers and distributors and, if so, how?

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