Question for written answer E-000113/2019 to the Commission Rule 130 Mireille D'Ornano (EFDD)

Subject: Cocaine consumption in Europe

Extracted from the leaf of the South American cocoa plant, cocaine is a psychotropic substance with stimulant and addictive properties and is currently undergoing a boom in Europe. A report by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction contains some worrying figures. In 2017, 2.3 million young people aged between 15 and 35 consumed cocaine. At the same time, 17 million adults between 15 and 64 say they have tried it. 40 tonnes of cocaine were seized in Belgium in 2017, and the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Spain have a similar problem. In France, the National Agency for Medicines and Health Products Safety (ANSM) has sounded the alarm about the increase in cocaine poisoning. The number of such cases doubled between 2015 and 2016 and continued to increase in 2017. The ANSM has also warned of the degree of seriousness of the cases, which can have cardiovascular, neurological or psychiatric complications.

- 1. What is the Commission's position on the increasing consumption of cocaine in Europe, particularly among young people?
- 2. Will the Commission help those Member States which are fighting cocaine trafficking, and especially France, where the drug enters from French Guiana?

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