

**Question for written answer E-000739/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Ambient air quality

According to the WHO, air pollution is responsible for one out of nine deaths worldwide. In the EU, it causes 400 000 premature deaths per year and costs billions of euros in health spending.

A recent report¹ has revealed that, for 15 Member States and neighbouring countries, air quality is not a priority, while efforts by the Member States and the Commission to contain air pollution are not sufficiently well coordinated. Under the latest EU Directive² Member States are required to provide air quality analyses to the European Environment Information and Observation Network, while the Commission is required to help them comply with recommended standards.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission give the most up-to-date and comprehensive information on the air quality situation in the 28 Member States?
2. What financial and non-financial instruments will it deploy under the 2021-2027 MFF to help Member States to fulfil their obligations (given that savings from air quality protection are estimated at EUR 40 billion annually)³?
3. What action will it take with regard to Member States that fail to comply with recommended air quality standards⁴?

¹ See <https://english.rekenkamer.nl/publications/reports/2019/01/30/joint-report-air-quality> and <https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/Pages/DocItem.aspx?did=46723>

² See Directive 2008/32

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EL/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32008L0050&from=EL>

See 2011 and 2015 updates,

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EL/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32011D0850&from=en> and http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/quality/existing_leg.htm

³ http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-13-1274_en.htm

⁴ http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-6247_en.htm