

**Question for oral answer O-000019/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 128

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Subject: Request for an investigation into compliance with the Tobacco directive following the Filtergate scandal

Articles 3, 4 and 5 of Directive 2014/40/EU concerning the manufacture, presentation and sale of tobacco and related products lay down maximum emission levels for tar, nicotine and carbon monoxide in tobacco products, the measurement methods to be used and requirements concerning the reporting of ingredients and emissions. More specifically, Article 3 stipulates that the emission levels from cigarettes placed on the market or manufactured in the Member States may not be greater than 10 mg of tar, 1 mg of nicotine and 10 mg of carbon monoxide per cigarette. Article 4 stipulates that tar, nicotine and carbon monoxide emissions from cigarettes must be verified by laboratories which are approved and monitored by the competent authorities of the Member States. Article 5 stipulates that Member States must require manufacturers and importers of tobacco products to submit to their competent authorities information concerning ingredients and quantities thereof and the emission levels referred to in Article 3. All these requirements had already been in force since the adoption of Directive 2001/37/EC.

Following the submission by the National Anti-Smoking Committee to the State Prosecutor in France of a complaint against the French subsidiaries of four cigarette manufacturers (British American Tobacco, Philip Morris, Japan Tobacco and Imperial Brand) citing 'deliberate endangerment of persons unknown', which is based on the claim that the manufacturers in question placed on the market cigarettes whose filters had been manipulated, with the result that their actual emission levels for tar, nicotine, carbon monoxide are significantly higher than those officially verified, can the Commission give assurances that all the provisions of Directive 2014/40/EU, and in particular those referred to above, are being enforced in all the Member States and complied with by cigarette manufacturers?

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Forwarded: 26.2.2018

Deadline for reply: 5.3.2018