

**Question for written answer E-005144/2011
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: European limits for exposure to nuclear radiation, and contamination of vessels and maritime freight containers

International transport law codifies a radioactivity exposure limit of 4 becquerels per square centimetre as the permitted surface contamination of goods. It seems there is neither an international nor a European limit for the exposure to radiation of seagoing vessels and maritime containers. The Federal Government of Germany has set a (guideline) limit of 1 microsievert per hour for seagoing vessels.

Does the Commission intend to propose European limits for the exposure to radiation of seagoing vessels and maritime containers? If not, why not?

If so, how does it intend to assist the Member States in implementing the limit values at international level, for example through the International Maritime Organisation?

If the Commission intends to introduce such limits, what is the proposed timescale for their introduction?