

Question for written answer E-004838/2018
to the Commission
Rule 130
Boris Zala (S&D)

Subject: Standardisation of recycling symbols on packaging across the EU

While Directive 94/62/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 December 1994 on packaging and packaging waste requires the creation of a labelling and identification system for packaging and for that system to be standardised, recycling symbols vary from Member State to Member State. One of the biggest issues is that the proportional size of these symbols varies considerably, which means that they are often difficult to see and identify. Uniform, mandatory recycling symbols on packaging will help to make EU citizens more willing to sort their waste, and will make it easier for them to do so.

What measures can the Commission take to make the symbols on packaging proportionally bigger and therefore more visible and easier to identify?

Is the Commission planning to harmonise the size and visibility of symbols on packaging, and make these requirements binding for Member States?

Is it planning to introduce rules similar to those that apply to the warnings on cigarette packaging, which are printed in a large font and are easy to read?