

**Question for written answer E-000645/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Legal mechanism for collective protection

Following the Dieselgate affair, the Commission proposed a Directive on consumer claims and repealing Directive 2009/22/EC that provides for a legal mechanism to protect consumers' collective interests. However, in addition to consumers, the Dieselgate affair has also caused damage to other groups that will not be able to exercise their rights under this Directive because they do not fall into the category of consumers. These groups include pedestrians who have inhaled harmful emissions from defective motor vehicles implicated in the Dieselgate scandal. In this connection:

1. What legal mechanisms does the Commission plan to propose, and when, aimed at protecting the interests of groups indirectly harmed by an adverse event, such as pedestrians harmed by the Dieselgate affair?
2. In the context of the European Green Deal, what legal mechanisms does the Commission plan to propose in order to protect the collective interests of injured parties following adverse events, such as environmental incidents?