

**Question for written answer E-003571/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Maria Spyraiki (PPE)

Subject: Restrictions on the supply of chemicals

A young woman who a few days ago was attacked with sulphuric acid in Athens by an unknown person is in a very critical condition. The victim is being treated for very serious burns, while her eyesight is also in danger. Sulphuric acid is extremely caustic and corrosive and is widely used in the chemical industry, with applications in fertilisers, chemicals, paints and vehicle batteries. Because it is extremely corrosive, it causes permanent burns to any part of the body. It destroys the skin and penetrates deep into the flesh, causing extensive tissue damage. It is freely available in small quantities in shops selling chemicals in different concentrations, from 30 to 70%.

Given that it is a matter of public health and safety of European citizens, and that, under Regulation (EC) 1907/2006 on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), measures are required where the manufacture, placing on the market or use a substance in pure form, in a preparation or in an article, involves a risk to human health or the environment, which is not adequately controlled and needs to be addressed;

Will the Commission say:

Will it consider whether to impose restrictions on the availability and use of sulphuric acid by citizens and propose harmonised regulatory measures for all Member States?