Question for written answer E-003958/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Daniel Buda (PPE)

Subject: Toxicity problem with canned food

According to a recent study by American specialists, canned foods, such as fish, liver pate or meat, can be very harmful to consumers, the danger arising from the containers, especially metal cans.

In order to prevent rust and keep products as fresh as possible, they incorporate a plastic coating containing bisphenol A, an organic substance that can contaminate the food inside and be rapidly absorbed by the organism on consumption. This substance can also be found in certain soft drinks packaging or children's toys.

According to the study, bisphenol is no longer used for baby bottles. However, very few companies have also removed it from metal food cans. A single can may cause a 20-fold increase in toxic bisphenol levels in the blood, increasing the risk of diabetes or disrupting the hormonal functioning of the body.

In view of this, what instruments does the Commission have at its disposal to regulate the use of bisphenol A for various types of packaging?