

**Question for written answer E-006790/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Tomislav Sokol (PPE)

Subject: Over-packaging of products

The new Circular Economy Action Plan, presented by the Commission in March 2020, states that annual waste production is expected to increase by as much as 70% by 2050. The over-packaging of products also contributes greatly to the trend of increasing waste production. Over-packaging is described as packaging that is unnecessary and undesirable for a product's distribution to the end user, i.e. the consumer, and it is plastic that is most often used as a packaging material. In addition to causing consumer outcry and affecting shipping costs, over-packaging also has an adverse impact on the environment. In this connection:

1. What specific measures does the Commission intend to adopt in order to reduce the practice of over-packaging products and thus to contribute to the achievement of the circular economy?
2. Does the Commission have data on how much waste is introduced unnecessarily into the environment each year due to the over-packaging of products?
3. Given that as much as 40% of the plastic produced is used as packaging for products, does the Commission feel that the revision of Directive 94/62/EC is sufficient to address the problem of the over-packaging of products, or should other mechanisms be used to resolve this issue on a global scale?