Question for written answer E-001564/2021
to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: Harmonisation of product labelling standards in the single market

There are currently no clear and harmonised standards on product labelling in the European Union. This prevents consumers from being correctly informed, and means they do not know whether packaging is recyclable or not.

Trade between Member States is blocked by different national rules, which represent further barriers to the internal market. In addition, we must take into account manufacturers because if each Member State has different regulations on packaging and its recycling, this can lead to high production costs, which have a greater impact on SMEs.

In its own-initiative report on a sustainable single market for businesses and consumers, Parliament has already emphasised the need to develop and introduce mandatory labelling in order for consumers to be clearly informed.

The green transition is one of our priorities, yet unilateral initiatives by Member States would increase the number of packages placed on the market and could jeopardise the uniformity of our single market.

For this reason, how does the Commission intend to establish a single and harmonised labelling system in the EU for the recycling of products for the benefit of consumers and manufacturers?