

**Question for written answer E-001789/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Maria Spyraiki (PPE)

Subject: Identification and prevention of fuel adulteration

A new chemical by the name of 'meth-ethanol' was detected during a check on a tanker that left a refinery in Bulgaria and arrived in Greece via Skopje. It is described as 'the perfect adulterant', as it costs EUR 0.10 per litre as opposed to the EUR 1-plus cost of petrol. It has an octane rating of 97, the same as premium petrol and, moreover, can remain undetected by adulteration checks on petrol in concentrations of up to 40%.

In view of this:

1. What information does the Commission have on this substance regarding its use to adulterate fuel in the EU?
2. What steps does it intend to take to protect European consumers, to prevent this chemical from being used in future to adulterate fuel?