

**Question for written answer E-002499/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Anna Cavazzini (Verts/ALE), **Jutta Paulus** (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Circular economy and recycling targets for municipal waste

According to the latest version of the Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC), Member States were required to take measures to achieve the objective of recycling 50 % of their household waste by 2020. Waste prevention under the Circular Economy Action Plan, both in product policy and waste policy, and the European Parliament's demands for waste reduction, overall and in specific waste streams and product groups, have to be based on statistics on progress made so far. In order to achieve the goal of a full circular economy by 2050, it is essential that reliable statistics are available and compliance is enforced. According to Eurostat figures from 2018, around half of the Member States would not have achieved the 50 % recycling target.

1. Can the Commission confirm which Member States did not achieve the 50 % recycling target for municipal waste as required by Article 11(2)(a) of the Waste Framework Directive, and does it believe that the existing statistics on waste are reliable?
2. What measures has the Commission taken or does it envisage taking to ensure that Member States are compliant and to support Member States to this end, with particular regard to support for investment?
3. What is the Commission's assessment of burning waste for energy in this regard?