Question for written answer E-002755/2021
to the Commission
Rule 138
Christine Schneider (PPE)

Subject: Regulation of food supplements

On the basis of the Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to food supplements, each Member State has developed its own legislation on food supplements.

The legislation varies greatly across the Member States, not only in terms of composition and extent but also of content. There are positive and negative lists of permitted or prohibited ingredients, maximum quantities, specific labelling requirements and various other conditions of use.

Most Member States have introduced a reporting obligation, which some use as an authorisation procedure prior to placing on the market. Others have not considered it necessary to introduce a reporting obligation.

Will the Commission undertake a further harmonisation procedure in this regard with the aim of standardising the various national legislations and removing the differences in the European single market?

Will the Commission introduce a common authorisation procedure for food supplements to investigate their pharmacological effects and thus create an effective distinction from medicinal products?