

**Question for written answer E-003410/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Eric Andrieu (S&D), Sylvie Guillaume (S&D)

Subject: Ethylene oxide: an EU-banned carcinogenic pesticide

Non-compliant products containing ingredients illegally treated with ethylene oxide – a carcinogenic, mutagenic and toxic to reproduction (CMR) disinfectant that is banned in Europe – are currently sold on European soil as everyday consumer goods, without consumers' knowledge and in breach of EU rules.

1. Given that the EU has banned ethylene oxide, would the Commission agree that national authorities should be required to withdraw and recall foodstuffs containing an ingredient treated with that chemical?
2. Does the Commission support our conclusion that these non-compliant products are in clear breach of Articles 11 and 14 of Regulation 178/2002, both of which are on food safety, and that appropriate measures therefore need to be taken?
3. Lastly, does the Commission share the view that it is completely contradictory to classify these toxic substances as dangerous and CMR substances and ban them in the EU, while at the same time allowing them back in via imported products, thus putting people's health at risk?