

**Question for written answer E-004106/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
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Subject: Preparing to address the risks arising from CBRN material

Should chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) risks and threats materialise, whether through natural disasters, accidental releases or acts of aggression, the result could be a high casualty count and significant cross-border fallout. While preparations for such incidents and response procedures are the responsibility of the Member States, the COVID-19 pandemic has illustrated that they can be more effective when acting together. There is still room for improvement when it comes to anticipating CBRN incidents and crisis situations and stepping up EU response capacity and resilience. In view of this:

1. Is the Commission considering drawing up a contingency plan on the basis of possible scenarios or establishing a permanent joint mechanism for the planning and coordination of response procedures in any major crisis situation posing a serious threat to the EU as a whole?
2. How does the Commission assess the effectiveness of EU sanctions for infringements of international rules prohibiting CBRN weapons?
3. What specific measures are being envisaged by it to encourage more effective CBRN cooperation and coordination, both between Member States and between the EU and its partners such as NATO and the US?