

**Question for written answer E-004485/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Biljana Borzan (S&D)

Subject: Encouraging the use of sustainable packaging

Materials that are difficult or impossible to recycle, such as various types of rigid plastics,

cellophane wrapping, styrofoam, PET or tetrapack packaging, can be replaced with easily recyclable materials such as glass, cork and cardboard. If we see the advantages offered by such materials in time, product packaging can provide us with profitable and valuable secondary raw materials instead of expensive and environmentally harmful waste.

The categorisation of businesses according to their impact on the environment and the rental of environmentally friendly packaging are some of the steps needed in order to achieve the goal of greater use of recyclable packaging. An additional step would be to encourage businesses to carry out as much eco-assessment as possible, which would be accompanied by an eco-standard and various benefits and subsidies. Such an approach to waste management can boost the green economy, influence consumer culture and redefine society's attitude towards waste as having economic value rather than being a problem.

1. Does the Commission encourage the transition to the use of sustainable and recyclable packaging? If so, through what measures?
2. Does the Commission plan to introduce some form of environmental footprint ranking of economic operators under the European Green Deal?