

**Question for written answer E-002392/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Action plan to eliminate all non-essential uses of per- and polyfluoroalkyl compounds (PFAS)

Widespread public exposure to PFAS is causing increasing concern around Europe and has led to several regulatory commitments in the past years. In the chemicals strategy for sustainability, the Commission committed to proposing a comprehensive set of actions to address the use of and contamination by PFAS, aiming in particular to ensure that the use of PFAS is phased out in the EU unless proven essential for society. However, during a recent public event, a representative from DG Environment stated that the restrictions under development will not incorporate the criteria for essential use, arguing that the latter will not be ready in time for the restriction proposal.

Can the Commission clarify the following:

1. Will restrictions on PFAS only be based on tools already in the Regulation on Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) or will the criteria for essential use be incorporated? How does the Commission intend to guarantee that future restrictions deliver on the aim of restricting all non-essential uses of PFAS?
2. What is the expected timeline for the finalisation and adoption of the essential use criteria?
3. Once finalised, how does the Commission plan to implement the essential use criteria in the revised REACH, and how does it intend to apply them in other legislation on chemicals?