**Question for written answer E-002814/2022**

to the Commission

Rule 138

Anja Hazekamp (The Left)

Subject: The effects of pesticides on amphibians and reptiles

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List\(^1\), 41% amphibians and 21% of reptiles are threatened with extinction. Pesticides have been identified as a major driver of this decline. However, Regulation (EC) 1107/2009 on plant protection products (PPP Regulation) and implementing Regulation (EU) 283/2013 require a comprehensive environmental assessment of pesticides and active substances in order to ensure they do not have harmful effects on amphibians and reptiles.

In practice, the specific effects of pesticides on these widely exposed species are not tested in risk assessments because there is no suitable guidance document. Furthermore, available literature is insufficiently taken into account. Therefore, current risk assessments do not provide the required level of protection for amphibians and reptiles, and this failure is leading to a significant impact on these populations. This was confirmed by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) in a scientific opinion published in 2018\(^2\).

Given this and in the context of the Nature Restoration Package, the preparation of a guidance document must be a priority in order to prevent the threatened extinction of these species.

1. More than 10 years after the entry into force of the PPP Regulation, will the Commission finally call on EFSA to draft this guidance document?
2. Why did the Commission not immediately follow up on EFSA’s 2018 preparatory work?

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\(^1\) [https://www.iucnredlist.org/fr](https://www.iucnredlist.org/fr)

\(^2\) [https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2018.5125](https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2018.5125)