

**Question for written answer E-002916/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Aurélia Beigneux (ID)**

Subject: Synthetic drugs flooding into Europe

Dangerous and addictive, the synthetic drug 3-MMC is flooding into Europe to the point where it is becoming one of the psychoactive substances most consumed in the European Union. A member of the synthetic cathinone family, it reproduces the effects of cocaine, ecstasy or even amphetamines. Sold as a powder, in crystal form or as tablets, it owes its appeal to being readily available at a relatively low price.

A Commission directive came into force in August that adds 3-MMC to its definition of the term 'drug'. However, traffickers and internet sites offering 3-MMC for sale have adapted to this: they now send their customers products that have similar effects but which fall outside this definition. Production of the drug recently relocated from Asia to Europe, to meet demand.

1. How will the Commission combat the many internet sites selling 3-MMC and its derivatives?
2. What changes will it make to its legislation to counter the ease with which traffickers adapt to a new situation?
3. How will it combat the proliferation of clandestine laboratories in the European Union and preempt their development?