

**Question for written answer E-002285/2023/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance pollution

Despite European water and chemical legislation, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), so-called forever-chemicals, are emerging as one of Europe's major environmental disasters. Recently, journalists from Dutch TV programme Zembla revealed that perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) concentrations in surface water around the chemical company Chemours in the Netherlands are on average 13 thousand times above levels considered to be safe by the Dutch health authorities.

1. Are the unhealthy PFOA concentrations around Chemours in the Commission's view, permissible under EU legislation?
2. Concentrations of PFAS in Europe are continuing to rise, which is having a serious impact on health and the natural environment. Does the Commission plan new legislative steps to address existing PFAS pollution in addition to addressing new pollution by means of the PFAS ban, which is now under review?
3. Pollution from these substances brings with it substantial costs for governments and health authorities: how will the Commission ensure that the polluter pays principle applies to the chemical industry?

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