

**Question for written answer E-002335/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Paolo Borchia (ID)

Subject: Clarification on the maximum levels of pyrrolizidine alkaloids

Commission Regulation (EU) 2020/2040 of 11 December 2020 amended Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 as regards maximum levels of pyrrolizidine alkaloids in certain foodstuffs by setting lower maximum levels. Taking into account the fact that the foodstuffs covered by the regulation have a long shelf life, the Commission considered it appropriate to provide for a significantly long transitional period. Indeed, foodstuffs listed in the annex and lawfully placed on the market before 1 July 2022 may remain on the market until 31 December 2023.

Despite the provisions of the regulation, some Member States enforced it immediately and did not grant a transition period. We are aware that in March 2023 the Commission discussed the issue with Member States.

In view of the above can the Commission clarify whether:

1. Member States agreed on a uniform interpretation of the transition period?
2. Specific limits were discussed in order to provide a safe operative space for products lawfully placed on the market before 1 July 2022 and which will remain on the market until 31 December 2023?

Submitted: 24.7.2023