

**Question for written answer E-002697/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Nicolae Ștefănuță (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Concern over the reliability of the waste management statistics submitted by Romania

The latest investigative report on 'Recycling in Romania: Chaos, Corruption and Incompetence' published by the Romanian journal *Recorder* shows that the statistics officially transmitted to the EU do not reflect the situation on the ground as regards waste management. This situation threatens to undermine the European Green Deal and calls for remedial action from the Commission.

The lack of transparency and oversight in this area is perturbing, and means that the statistics provided by Romania cannot be trusted. The unreliability of the statistics is a threat to delivering the objectives of the European circular economy on the ground.

How can the Commission ensure that Romania implements concrete reforms to improve its recycling system and to ensure that the reporting of waste management statistics reflects the actual situation on the ground and that the data submitted can be relied upon by Eurostat and for EU policies?

Submitted: 19.9.2023