

**Question for written answer E-003275/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Roman Haider (ID)

Subject: Compostable coffee capsules

The Commission wants to update the legal framework for packaging and packaging waste (Proposal COM(2022)0677). Requirements for packaging and its disposal, as well as labelling rules, are set to be clearly defined and harmonised EU-wide¹. Coffee bags and single-serve coffee capsules fall within the definition of packaging under this proposal, which is why the European Coffee Federation (ECF) has published a position paper on this. Although the ECF takes a positive view of the proposal, it explicitly criticises the ban on recyclable coffee capsules and their complete replacement by compostable alternatives².

1. What is the Commission's position on the ECF's request that coffee capsules intended to be used and disposed of together with their contents (Article 3(1)(g)) be omitted from Article 8(1), which would remove the obligation to produce these coffee capsules from compostable material?
2. What is the Commission's response to the ECF's criticism that making it obligatory to use coffee capsules made from compostable materials would also require new coffee machines to be developed and sold, creating even more waste?
3. In the Commission's view, what are the advantages of using compostable coffee capsules, as opposed to further improving recyclable alternatives?

Submitted: 7.11.2023

¹ https://www.ecf-coffee.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/ECF-position-PPWR-proposal_07.02.23.pdf

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52022PC0677>