

**Question for written answer E-000112/2024  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Stefania Zambelli (PPE)**

Subject: Occupational cancer cases on the rise in Europe

Between 2013 and 2021, 33 712 cases of cancer in the EU were officially recognised as occupational, a term used for cancers that are generally caused by long-term exposure to carcinogenic factors present in the working environment.

According to the statistics for Member States, of the many types of occupational cancers, the most common were lung cancer and mesothelioma (which is linked to asbestos exposure), with almost 14 000 and 13 530 cases respectively. Bowel cancer is the third most prevalent (2 416 cases), followed by nasal and sinus cancer (930) and skin cancer (887).

However, the data we have often underestimate the extent of the issue because they do not factor in all the undiagnosed and unrecognised occupational cancers.

In the light of these alarming data:

1. What will the Commission do to protect the thousands of workers affected by occupational cancers?
2. In the interests of improving prevention and ensuring the swift recognition of occupational cancers, what steps need to be taken to develop better data collection methods?

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