

**Question for written answer E-000810/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Manu Pineda (The Left)

Subject: Asbestos in the former Levante fibre cement factory in San Vicent del Raspeig (Alicante):
European measures in response to the inaction of the local government and the regional
ministry

For years, the neighbourhood association of Los Manchegos, a district of San Vicent del Raspeig (Alicante), has been complaining about the presence of asbestos in the former Levante fibre cement factory, between the building debris and the undergrowth.

The Commission, through various proposals, has called on all EU institutions and Member States to speed up their action towards an asbestos-free European Union for current and future generations. In June 2023, the EU amended its rules to reduce the maximum asbestos exposure limits, established due to the carcinogenic risk associated with the substance.

1. What measures will the Commission take to ensure that Member States oblige the competent authorities to speed up the removal of this highly carcinogenic substance in cities?
2. Does the Commission intend to ask for information and investigate the above case, given the inaction of the local government and the regional Ministry of the Environment itself and their refusal to recognise the serious problems faced by local residents in order to ensure compliance with EU rules?
3. Does the Commission not consider it necessary to approve structural funds to finance the removal of asbestos and protect public health?

Submitted: 15.3.2024