

WRITTEN QUESTION P-3888/07  
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to the Commission

Subject: Toxic accident in Ukraine on 17 July 2007 and its impact on Romania and other EU Member States

On 17 July 2007 a train crash occurred in Ukraine, creating toxic clouds of phosphorus. This event was seen by the Kiev authorities as serious and as having unpredictable consequences. It should be noted that it happened a mere 250 km from the Romanian border and not far from other EU Member States. In this context, the major risk of severe consequences for the environment and public health in Romania and the Union cannot be discarded, even more so as only minimal information has so far been received on the matter from the Ukrainian authorities.

In these circumstances, what action will the EU take to eliminate the potential effects of this accident, and what measures does the Commission propose to assist Romania and the other Member States in the danger zone? How does the Commission intend to act on its communication on synergy in the Black Sea region for the development of regional cooperation among the countries of the region, notably in the areas of the environment, public health and risk prevention, in this case and in the case of similar accidents?