

**Question for written answer P-005594/2018
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Cristian-Silviu Buşoi (PPE)

Subject: Ratification of the WTO Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products

During the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (COP8) and the first Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco (MOP1) held in Geneva in October 2018, WHO Spokesperson Dr Stella Bialou justified the non-compliance of the Tobacco Products Directive (TPD) regarding tobacco tracking and tracing by the fact that the adoption of the TPD preceded the ratification of the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products.

Moreover, on 9 June 2016, Parliament voted to ratify the Protocol and all Member States voted in favour in the Council, leading to its official ratification by the EU on the 24 June 2016.

1. How and when will the Commission remedy this discrepancy, now that the Protocol has been ratified by the EU?
2. How is the Commission addressing the situation of the remaining 15 Member States that have not ratified the WHO Protocol individually?