

**Priority question for written answer P-003949/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: First death in Belgium attributed to the toxic mixture in an e-cigarette

On 6 November, an 18-year-old from Brussels who had used an e-cigarette containing a cannabis derivative died as a result of respiratory failure. Similarly, 39 e-cigarette users have died in the US since the summer, having contracted a lung disease after consuming vitamin E oil that was added to cannabis refills sold on the black market.

According to analyses carried out by the US health authorities, vitamin E is harmful if inhaled or heated, and is therefore responsible for the lesions found in the victims' lungs.

1. In response to the tragedy, is the Commission planning to launch a campaign to raise awareness among young Europeans about the dangers of inhaling cannabis-based blended liquids using electronic cigarettes?
2. What measures will the Commission take to ensure that Directive 2014/40/EC is strictly enforced in the Member States, and in particular Article 20(3)(e), which states that, with the exception of nicotine, only ingredients that do not pose a risk to human health in heated or unheated form can be used in the nicotine-containing liquid?
3. What new legislative, economic and fiscal measures will the Commission take over the next few months to prevent the tobacco industry's systematic targeting of younger and younger people?