Priority question for written answer P-004009/2020
to the Commission
Rule 138
Michal Wiezik (PPE)

Subject: Sustainability criteria for bioenergy in the light of the European Green Deal

In the European Green Deal, the Commission has committed to putting forward an impact assessment plan to increase, in a responsible way, the EU’s greenhouse gas emission reduction target for 2030 to between 50 % and 55 % compared with 1990 levels. To deliver these additional greenhouse gas emission reductions, the Commission will, by June 2021, review and propose to revise, where necessary, all relevant climate-related policies.

In addition, the Biodiversity Strategy explains that the revised Renewable Energy Directive ‘also promotes the shift to advanced biofuels based on residues and non-reusable and non-recyclable waste. This approach should continue for all forms of bioenergy. The use of whole trees and food and feed crops for energy production – whether produced in the EU or imported – should be minimised.’

Can the Commission therefore confirm that Article 29 and Annex IX of the Renewable Energy Directive, covering sustainability criteria for bioenergy, will be reviewed in line with the Green Deal and Biodiversity Strategy? Can the Commission confirm that Article 29 and Annex IX will be part of the impact assessment the Commission is going to conduct?