Priority question for written answer P-000686/2021 to the Commission Rule 138 Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová (ECR)

Subject: Availability and conditions for CBD sales on the EU single market

In January 2019, cannabidiol (CBD) was included in the Novel Food Catalogue, and authorisation must be obtained before it can be placed on the EU market. After manufacturers had applied for this authorisation, the process was temporarily suspended and some Member States began withdrawing products from the market, although others still allowed their sale or did not enforce the rules. CBD is now subject to different regulations depending on the nature of the products or their composition.

- 1. What is the current legal regime in relation to CBD in the EU, and on the basis of what EU rules are consumable products with CBD sold in some countries, while other countries (e.g. Slovakia) refer to the as yet unissued EU permit and CBD's inclusion in the Novel Food Catalogue?
- 2. Article 35 of Regulation 2015/2283 refers to a transitional measure whereby those foods which were lawfully placed on the market before 2018 may remain on the market. Could some CBD-containing products have benefited from this transitional measure and therefore have remained on the EU market?
- 3. What concrete steps does the Commission intend to take to avoid divergent interpretations of EU law in the single market and to ensure that producers of CBD-containing products and comestibles have equal and predictable business conditions and consumers have equal access to safe CBD-containing products?