

**Priority question for written answer P-002800/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

David McAllister (PPE)

Subject: EU chemicals strategy for sustainability

The chemicals strategy for sustainability is a core part of the European Green Deal. It provides for a shift from the scientifically substantiated risk-based approach to a hazard-based assessment. This could lead to substances being banned, putting supply chains and jobs in the EU at risk. In future, chemicals are to be restricted purely on the basis of how hazardous they are, irrespective of whether or not occupational health and safety measures, limit values and automation can ensure their safe use. This could make it almost impossible for many products to be manufactured in the EU. The planned adaptations, in particular the revision of the REACH Regulation, are very ambitious and would have an equally far-reaching impact on industry.

1. Does the Commission agree that moving away from the scientifically substantiated risk-based approach in the manner discussed thus far would lead to a loss in product diversity and jobs and an increase in red tape?
2. Analyses of the economic impact of the chemicals strategy estimate that around 10 % of all chemical products would disappear from the market and that the sector would see a drop in turnover of EUR 25 billion net by 2040. Does the Commission share that assessment and how does it plan to prevent this from happening?
3. How will it ensure that key chemicals can still be manufactured and used in the EU following this revision of the REACH Regulation?