

**Priority question for written answer P-000625/2024/rev.1  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Maria Spyraiki (PPE)**

**Subject:** Regulatory framework for the safety of tinned/canned food

Metal tins/cans are used to package a whole host of foods. The slightest damage caused along the supply chain as a result of impact or unsuitable storage can cause bacteria to enter and oxidation, which spoil the food. If the spoilage is not visible to consumers, they risk getting food poisoning. Indeed, such incidents are reported daily around the world. While the health authorities in the US and Canada have already issued instructions for the rules on the safety of tinned/canned food<sup>1</sup>, the EU is lacking a legal framework that lays down universally applicable quality standards for food tins/cans circulating in the EU, with a view to preventing tinned/canned food defects from negatively impacting the life<sup>2</sup> and health of consumers.

In view of this:

1. What steps does the Commission intend to take to draw up a model common framework to regulate safety rules for metal packaging in the EU?
2. How soon does it plan on proposing relevant measures to avoid discrepancies in safety standards, which cause problems of competitiveness with canned products from the US and Canada?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.afdo.org/product/packaged-and-canned-food-defect-guidelines-poster-blue/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.kathimerini.gr/society/562768186/gallia-diki-gia-ton-thanato-ellinidas-apo-allantiasi/>