

**Question for written answer E-003213/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Fulvio Martusciello (PPE), Marian-Jean Marinescu (PPE), Angelika Niebler (PPE), David Casa (PPE), Christine Schneider (PPE), Monika Hohlmeier (PPE), Antonio López-Istúriz White (PPE), György Hölvényi (PPE), Sabine Verheyen (PPE), Francesca Peppucci (PPE), Alessandra Mussolini (PPE), Herbert Dorfmann (PPE), Nicola Procaccini (ECR), Massimo Casanova (ID), Gianna Gancia (ID), Lucia Vuolo (PPE), Salvatore De Meo (PPE), Caterina Chinnici (PPE), Paolo Borchia (ID)

Subject: Proposal for a packaging and packaging waste regulation: transparency and impartiality of the impact assessment

There is an ongoing debate on the proposal for a packaging and packaging waste regulation (PPWR)¹ regarding the UK company that was awarded the Commission contracts to support the analysis for the accompanying impact assessment. Questions have been raised as to whether this company is the same company that has published several studies with non-governmental organisations and private companies promoting reusable plastic packaging.

It seems that this company, far from conducting independent and impartial research, is now openly supporting a wide range of private organisations that are openly pushing reusable plastic packaging.

This leads to a huge conflict of interest and raises serious questions as to whether this company may have provided biased advice to the Commission and casts into doubt the impartiality and transparency of the whole impact assessment process.

Considering that the impact assessment accompanying the PPWR clearly shows that, with the mandatory reuse targets, plastic packaging waste will increase by 17 % by 2030:

1. What measures has the Commission taken to safeguard the public interest when awarding contracts to this company?
2. Can the Commission make these contracts available to avoid conflicts of interest at least until the end of the PPWR legislative process?

Submitted: 27.10.2023

¹ Proposal for a Regulation on packaging and packaging waste, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and Directive (EU) 2019/904, and repealing Directive 94/62/EC (COM(2022)0677).