

**Question for written answer E-000534/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: REACH restriction on lead in outdoor shooting and fishing

Lead is highly toxic and there is no safe level of exposure for humans, which is why it has been banned from petrol, paint and pipes. However, 44 000 tonnes of lead continue to be dispersed into the EU environment every year through hunting, sport shooting and fishing.

Owing to the identified uncontrolled risk to the environment and human health from these uses of lead, the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) published the Annex XV Restriction Report in 2021, which proposed a restriction on the use and sale of both lead ammunition and fishing weights in the EU. ECHA's expert committees then thoroughly reviewed the Annex XV Restriction Report and produced their opinions in December 2022, which supported ECHA's recommendations.

The Commission, led by its Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, is now expected to publish a draft amendment to Annex XVII of the Regulation on the registration, evaluation, authorisation and restriction of chemicals (REACH) based on the evidence and recommendations provided by ECHA. However, this proposal has been repeatedly delayed, continuing to put the health of European citizens and wildlife at risk.

Will the Commission urgently release its proposal on the restriction of lead in outdoor shooting and fishing?

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