

**Question for written answer E-000985/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Theodoros Zagorakis (NI)**

Subject: Cigarette smuggling

Further to my question E-001077-16<sup>1</sup>, cigarette smuggling levels remain high. According to a report on the subject in Italy, Greece ranks fourth in Europe for the illicit trade in tobacco products, leading to a loss of tax revenue as well as increased public health risks. Smuggling cigarettes naturally results in their selling price being lowered to well below legal levels, making them more attractive and more easily accessible to the public.

1. Does the Commission have detailed data about cigarette smuggling in Member States, and the lost profits, and if so, what is the situation in Greece?
2. How does it intend to combat this phenomenon, which leads to a substantial loss in tax revenue for all Member States? How does it plan to protect consumers?

Submitted: 2.4.2024

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-8-2016-001077\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-8-2016-001077_EN.html)