

**Priority question for written answer P-002866/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Saskia Bricmont (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Export of asbestos banned in the EU

Asbestos is a highly dangerous, carcinogenic substance, which is why the EU has banned all forms of it in the EU since 2005. Yet while other developed economies, such as Canada, have moved to ban not only the use of asbestos but also its export¹, the EU's asbestos ban does not apply to exports from the EU. According to UN Comtrade data, the EU exported asbestos fibres to Ukraine, Türkiye, Mexico and other countries as recently as 2023.

1. Does the Commission have access to data about how much asbestos was exported by EU Member States to non-EU countries in the last five years?
2. Does the Commission have information or analysis about which EU-based companies are exporting asbestos and for what purposes?
3. Does the Commission plan to take action to follow Canada and other developed economies and ensure that no asbestos can be exported from the EU?

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¹ <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/10/the-government-of-canada-takes-measures-to-ban-asbestos-and-asbestoscontaining-products.html>.