

**Priority question for written answer P-002490/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Christophe Clergeau (S&D), Maria Noichl (S&D), Günther Sidl (S&D)

Subject: Missing neurotoxicity data on several pesticides

Various European media outlets have reported the findings of two Swedish researchers, which show that some studies on the developmental neurotoxicity of several pesticides were submitted to the US agency tasked with approving commercialisation, but were withheld from the European authorities. Neither the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) nor the relevant Member States' competent authorities identified the issue.

This non-disclosure is a breach of corporate obligations under EU law. The researchers assert that, had these studies been duly submitted to the European authorities, the decision process that led to the grant of a marketing authorisation for at least four pesticides would have yielded a different result. This lack of due diligence by EFSA and the Member States raises questions as to their capacity to fully and effectively fulfil their missions.

1. Are the Commission and EFSA considering measures to improve the sanctions regime for firms that fail to submit important studies, including by, for instance, requesting that the Member States declare any sanctions that they impose?
2. What further action is the Commission considering in order to avoid a repeat of such a situation?
3. What assistance does it plan to provide with regard to the revision of EFSA's organisation and to help enhance EFSA's cooperation with civil society, independent scientists and the Member States?

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