

To: **European Commission**

Mme. Veronica Manfredi- Director for Zero Pollution, Water Resilience and Green Cities – DG ENV

Mme. Kristin Schreiber – Director for Chemicals, Health, Retail and Agrifood – DG GROW

Brussels, the 31st of March 2026

Dear Directors,

We, the undersigned Members of the European Parliament, would like to reaffirm our strong support for the evolution of the EU chemicals regulatory framework established under the REACH Regulation (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals) in the context of comitology. Since its adoption, REACH has played a central role in ensuring a high level of protection for human health and the environment while supporting the functioning of the internal market and promoting innovation.

We believe it remains essential that the EU continues to modernise its approach to chemical safety assessment in order to maintain strong protections for human health and the environment while ensuring that regulation keeps pace with scientific and technological progress.

Nearly two decades after its entry into force, scientific and technological developments in toxicology, exposure science, and risk assessment have progressed rapidly. Modern approaches offer new opportunities to generate robust, human-relevant safety information while improving the efficiency and predictive capacity of chemical safety assessments and to support risk management. These advances also support the legal imperative embedded in REACH to minimise the use of animals in testing, as reflected in the requirement under Article 25 that animal testing should only be conducted as a last resort.

We respectfully urge the European Commission to make full use of the available regulatory tools to update the technical annexes of REACH through the EU Comitology procedure, including evolving data requirements to ensure that human health and environment protection is enhanced.

The European Commission would need to continue with the updates to the REACH Annexes that have already been discussed and announced in the context of the CARACAL and related expert subgroup discussions - ensuring that the revision addresses known data gaps, strengthens hazard identification and risk management and maintains clarity and enforceability of information requirements. **These updates represent an important opportunity to modernise regulatory requirements by integrating more human-centered and non-animal scientific approaches that can deliver more reliable, relevant and efficient safety assessments and risk management.**

Updating the REACH Annexes would also contribute to the broader objective of bringing simplification to the existing chemical legislation by delivering a more practical framework, which strengthens EU's competitiveness. Notably, such updates can enhance regulatory predictability through clearer data requirements and evidence-based decision making.

We also note the forthcoming publication by the European Commission of the EU Roadmap for Phasing Out Animal Testing in Chemical Safety Assessments, which is expected next month and will outline milestones for the progressive phase-out of animal testing in chemical safety assessment. Updating the REACH annexes will therefore be essential to ensuring that the roadmap's goals can be effectively implemented.

We remain committed to supporting the European Commission in this work and stand ready to collaborate in achieving our shared goal of a modern, ethical, and competitive European research and regulatory system.

Yours sincerely,

Tilly Metz (Greens/EFA)

Niels Fuglsang (S&D)

Sirpa Pietikäinen (EPP)

Jutta Paulus (Greens/EFA)

Katrin Langensiepen (Greens/EFA)

Sebastian Everding (The Left)

Emma Fourreau (The Left)

Per Clausen (The Left)

Cristina Guarda (Greens/EFA)

Marie Toussaint (Greens/EFA)

Saskia Bricmont (Greens/EFA)

Sigrid Friis (Renew)

Manuela Ripa (EPP)