

**Question for oral answer O-000047/2019  
to the Commission**

Rule 136

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on behalf of the PPE Group

Subject: Common charger for mobile radio equipment

For more than 10 years Members of the European Parliament have been campaigning for a common charger for mobile radio equipment, including mobile phones, tablets, e-book readers, smart cameras, wearable electronics and other medium- or small-sized electronic devices. Despite the Commission's efforts, voluntary agreements between industry players have not produced satisfactory results. Almost every household in the EU is believed to have accumulated several old chargers, which according to estimates generates more than 51 000 tons of electronic waste per year. Consumers are obliged to buy new chargers with all new devices. When travelling, they are effectively forced to carry with them different chargers for similar devices. This restricts EU citizens' freedom of movement, full participation in society and causes an unnecessary environmental footprint.

There is an urgent need for EU action on this matter. We need a standard for a common charger for mobile radio equipment to be adopted as a matter of urgency. Therefore we call on the Commission to start by adopting the delegated act supplementing Directive 2014/53/EU on radio equipment by July 2020, which would introduce the common charger.

- 1 When will the Commission present the results of the impact assessment on the introduction of common chargers for mobile telephones and other compatible devices?
- 2 The use of wireless charging technology entails additional potential benefits. How does the Commission intend to ensure the interoperability of different wireless chargers with different mobile radio equipment?
- 3 Is the Commission considering legislative initiatives to increase the volume of cables and chargers recycled in the Member States?
- 4 How will the Commission ensure that consumers are not obliged to buy new chargers with each new device, thereby reducing their environmental footprint?

Submitted: 10/12/2019

Lapses: 11/03/2020