

Inclusion of the drug precursor Isopropylidene (2-(3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl)acetyl)malonate (IMDPAM) and other substances in the list of scheduled substances

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The European Parliament decided to **raise no objections** to the Commission delegated regulation of 28 February 2024 amending Regulation (EC) No 273/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (EC) No 111/2005 as regards the inclusion of the drug precursor Isopropylidene (2-(3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl)acetyl)malonate (IMDPAM) and other substances in the list of scheduled substances.

The EU legislative framework on measures to control access to substances used in the manufacture of illicit drugs must be continuously updated to counter the proliferation of the so-called ‘designer precursors’, which are close chemical relatives of traditional drug precursors created to circumvent existing rules.

The sodium salt of Isopropylidene (2-(3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl)acetyl)malonate (IMDPAM) has been identified as a newly developed drug precursor used in the production of MDMA (3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), commonly known as ‘ecstasy’. Seven esters of 2-methyl-3-phenyloxirane-2-carboxylic acid (BMK glycidic acid) and six esters of 3-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-2-methyl-oxirane-2-carboxylic acid (PMK glycidic acid) have been identified as possible substitutes of BMK glycidic acid and PMK glycidic acid, which are controlled precursors under EU law, in the production of illicit drugs such as MDMA, methamphetamine and amphetamine.

It is necessary to amend the list of scheduled substances included in Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 273/2004 and in the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 111/2005 to subject IMPDAM and the identified esters of BMK glycidic acid and PMK glycidic acid to the harmonised control and monitoring measures provided for by those regulations.

Measures to control access to newly scheduled substances under Regulations (EC) No 273/2004 and (EC) No 111/2005 should enter into force as soon as possible to prevent the use of those drug precursors for the production and placing on the market of illicit drugs.

Against this background, Parliament declared that it has no objections to the delegated regulation.