# Chromium VI: ECHA committees finalise their opinion and call for at least 36 months of transition

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The European Chemicals Agency announced on 19 November 2026 that its Committee for Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC) had adopted its final opinion on the **restriction of chromium(VI) substances**, closing the procedure that began with the April 2025 proposal and the public consultation of summer 2026.

SEAC considers that "restriction option 2" strikes the best balance between reducing exposure and socio-economic impact, and that stricter options would not be proportionate. It recommends a **transition period of at least 36 months** and, together with the Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC), calls for implementation and enforcement guidelines.

The opinions now go to the European Commission, which will propose the text for a vote in the REACH Committee of Member States. For decorative chrome plating on plastics the message is clear: the window to complete the shift to trivalent chrome, PVD and metallic-effect paints is now measured in a few years, not decades.

Sources: European Coatings · IEU Monitoring