

**Question for written answer E-002525/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Barbara Bonte (PfE)

Subject: Minerals Security Partnership: results after 2 years

Since 2022, some fifteen states, including the United States, Germany, France, India but also the European Union, have formed the Minerals Security Partnership. The objective is for participating countries to gain more control over their supply chain when it comes to rare earths, cobalt, lithium, etc., and reduce their strategic dependence on China. Indeed, the International Energy Agency estimates that globally, to achieve the utopian goal of carbon neutrality by 2050, a six-fold increase in the extraction of critical minerals by 2040 would be required.

With Blackrock, Goldman Sachs and Citygroup as the most important financing partners, it is not inconceivable that this partnership, set up at the request of the United States, will mainly benefit the latter, at the expense of European control of the rare earths supply chain.

1. How does the Commission ensure the necessary coordination of its efforts and those of France and Germany within the partnership?
2. What concrete results has the Partnership already delivered in terms of strategic independence?
3. What practical measures does the Commission intend to use to counterbalance US dominance within the Partnership, in other words to ensure that European industry in particular becomes less dependent on China?

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