

Question for written answer E-002039/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Krzysztof Brejza (PPE)

Subject: Strengthening Europe's chemical industry: EU Critical Chemicals Act initiative

The European chemicals industry is facing severe challenges, exacerbated by high energy costs and fierce competition from non-EU countries benefiting from cheaper energy, including Russian resources. This has led to a widening trade deficit, especially in the production of critical molecules such as sodium carbonates, essential for industries such as glass production, detergents, agrochemicals and pharmaceuticals. To address this, the EU Critical Chemicals Act, supported by Member States including France, Spain, Hungary and others, is a crucial step in ensuring the long-term resilience of Europe's chemical sector. This initiative must focus on modernising chemical plants, reducing emissions and recognising strategic EU molecules, such as sodium carbonates, which are pivotal to Europe's industrial base.

1. Is the Commission considering proposing an EU Critical Chemicals Act to address challenges facing the European chemicals industry, which will recognise the EU's strategic molecules – including, among others, sodium carbonates?
2. How does the Commission plan to ensure the modernisation and long-term sustainability of Europe's chemical industry, particularly by providing flexible funding options for investments aimed at reducing process emissions?
3. What steps will the Commission take to protect EU production of strategic molecules and improve trade defence mechanisms against unfair practices?

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