

Question for written answer E-002595/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

Majdouline Sbai (Verts/ALE), Maria Ohisalo (Verts/ALE), Ana Miranda Paz (Verts/ALE), Sara Matthieu (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Financing of strategic projects under the Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA)

The Commission recently published two lists of strategic projects under the Critical Raw Materials Act¹ (CRMA): one for projects in the EU and one for projects in non-EU countries. According to Article 16 of the CRMA, the financing of strategic projects is coordinated through a permanent financing subgroup of the Critical Raw Materials Board, which will help to advise project promoters on the financing of their projects. There is a lack of transparency regarding the Critical Raw Materials Board and this subgroup. Despite Parliament's status as observer, MEPs do not currently have access to information from this subgroup.

Could the Commission:

1. Confirm whether all the strategic projects identified by the Commission are currently being discussed within this subgroup?
2. Clarify whether the Commission is only liaising with the institutions or organisations (e.g. European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Investment Bank, export credit agencies, national raw materials funds) that could be linked to the financing of the projects, or whether these institutions are directly participating in the subgroup?
3. Clarify how it will ensure that projects supported through the various financial mechanisms are not only aligned but comply with international standards, how the effective monitoring of these standards will be ensured, and what concrete sanctions the Commission plans for, in cases of non-compliance?

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¹ Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials and amending Regulations (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1724 and (EU) 2019/1020 (OJ L, 2024/1252, 3.5.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1252/oj>).