

Question for written answer E-002914/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Missing CBAM benchmark values and impending competitive disadvantages for European companies

According to Article 31 of Regulation (EU) 2023/956¹, the Commission is authorised to adopt implementing acts for the calculation of Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) costs.

However, around 600 relevant benchmark values are still missing for the calculation of costs. Without these, the CBAM formula (emissions subject to CBAM = embedded emissions – CBAM benchmark × CBAM factor) cannot be applied. This leads to considerable economic and legal uncertainty for European companies that import goods.

Although CBAM certificates for 2026 do not have to be purchased until 2027, companies already need reliable information for pricing. Imports often have lead times of six months or more. Without calculation certainty, there are competitive disadvantages and in the worst cases, insolvency.

1. What specific measures is the Commission considering, taking into account that imports often require long lead times and that clarity on CBAM costs is therefore needed now?
2. How does it assess the competitiveness risk for European importers due to the lack of key calculation parameters?
3. Why have the benchmark values been withheld so far and are they to be linked to the update of the EU emissions trading system (ETS) 2026-2030, which is not expected to be available until spring 2026?

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¹ Regulation (EU) 2023/956 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 May 2023 establishing a carbon border adjustment mechanism, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/956/oj>.