

**Question for written answer E-004858/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Recycling rare earths in the EU to break dependence on China

China has recently turned its rare earth exports into a bargaining chip, exposing the EU's heavy dependence on permanent magnets used in the wind and automotive industries, as well as in much electronic and medical equipment. Although the Critical Raw Materials Act sets a target of 25 % of critical materials from recycled sources by 2030 and the RESourceEU Action Plan, adopted on 3 December 2025, aims to move this along, there is still no structured EU chain for collecting, disassembling and recycling these magnets. Some EU recyclers of rare earths from end-of-life products point to elevated costs compared to Asian manufacturers, insufficient market signals and overly slow procedures for authorising new capacity.

1. In light of the above, does the Commission plan to put forward, under the RESourceEU plan, a specific regulatory framework aiming to establish a permanent magnet recycling sector within the EU, including requirements for the magnets to be designed to be easily disassembled?
2. Does it intend to bring in financial incentives and/or quotas for incorporating recycled materials to support construction of rare-earth recycling and refining facilities and make value chains more resilient?

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