

**Question for written answer E-000423/2026/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Ivaylo Valchev (ECR)

Subject: Measures to protect energy-intensive industries

On 26 February 2025, the Commission presented the Clean Industrial Deal, which is meant to result in lower energy prices and the creation of quality jobs. Investment in Europe's chemicals sector fell by over 80 % in 2025 and plant closures doubled. There is a real danger that the continent will become dependent on China for the raw materials needed for the automotive, health and defence industries. The sector is struggling with high energy prices, suffocating bureaucracy and the growth in Chinese imports. Announcements of plant closures have impacted directly on around 20 000 jobs across Europe since 2022 and last year wiped out 17.2 megatonnes in production capacity.

I would therefore like to put the following questions to the Commission:

1. Given the measures taken by the Commission, how will it guarantee a genuine reduction in energy bills, and that energy costs are not simply redistributed?
2. Are decarbonisation plans not over-ambitious and unrealistic given the increase in global demand for cheap and secure energy?
3. Is the Commission prepared to reform the Clean Industrial Deal it presented, and in particular to abolish carbon quotas?

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