Question for written answer E-000931/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Economic consequences of the carbon border adjustment mechanism for the outermost regions

Regulation (EU) 2023/956 establishing a carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM) aims to tackle carbon leakage and bring imports into line with the EU's environmental requirements. However, the application of its environmental objectives raises concerns about its economic and social consequences in the outermost regions (ORs).

The construction and fertiliser industries, which are essential for infrastructure development, housing construction and the agricultural sovereignty of the ORs, depend very heavily on imports of materials that are highly exposed to the CBAM, in particular cement, steel and fertilisers.

In regions already facing geographical remoteness, narrow markets, structural additional costs and a persistent high cost of living, the potential increase of costs linked to the CBAM could exacerbate economic tensions, hinder public and private investment and undermine the development and territorial cohesion objectives.

1. Can the Commission explain how it intends to take into account the specific characteristics of the ORs, established in Article 349 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, when implementing the CBAM?

2. Is it considering adaptation, compensation or exemption mechanisms to prevent the instrument from becoming an additional factor contributing to the economic and social fragility of those strategic EU territories?

Supporter[1]

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