

Question for written answer E-001028/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Dan-Ştefan Motreanu (PPE)

Subject: Critical raw materials

A recent report by the European Court of Auditors (ECA) warns that the EU is unlikely to secure a stable supply of critical raw materials by 2030, despite the adoption of the Critical Raw Materials Act in 2024. According to the ECA, EU efforts to diversify imports have produced limited tangible results, domestic extraction faces persistent obstacles and recycling remains in its early stages.

Of the 26 materials needed for the energy transition, the EU is fully dependent on imports for 10. In a small number of third countries, supply chains remain highly concentrated, exceeding the 65 % dependency threshold set for 2030. Although 14 strategic partnerships have been signed, imports from partner countries decreased in many cases between 2020 and 2024.

Recycling targets also appear out of reach: several materials have recycling rates of below 5 % and many are not recycled at all. Meanwhile, mining projects can take up to 20 years to become operational, casting doubt on the objective of achieving 10 % domestic extraction.

In light of these findings, what additional measures does the Commission intend to propose to ensure that the 2030 targets on diversification, recycling and domestic extraction can be realistically achieved?

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