

Question for written answer E-002457/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: EU ports strategy: investments, priorities and role of Member States

The EU ports strategy provides a solid basis for the continued development of maritime ports in the German state of Lower Saxony. What matters now is backing the measures announced with adequate funding, providing effective support for investments, speeding up planning and permitting procedures and better coordinating the various infrastructure projects.

1. What does the Commission make of concerns that the broad and partly non-binding nature of the EU ports strategy and the large number of promised initiatives, alliances and support instruments harbour the risk of policy fragmentation, potentially making effective prioritisation more difficult?
2. How does it plan to meet the high investment needs of EU ports, particularly with regard to small and medium-sized enterprises, smaller shipyards and regional stakeholders, who are key to the strategy's implementation?
3. As the strategy is developed further and put into effect, how does the Commission intend to ensure that national and regional interests are duly considered and that the different starting points of EU ports are sufficiently taken into account?

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