

Question for written answer E-002989/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: AI dependency

Companies such as ASML Holding N.V. and Carl Zeiss SMT possess technologies that are vitally important for manufacturing cutting-edge semiconductors and for which there is no easy substitute in the short term. Europe therefore occupies a strategically important position in the global semiconductor supply chain.

At the same time, there is a risk that third countries could restrict the access of European companies, research institutes and public authorities to the latest AI models, supercomputers, cloud services or other key digital technologies. Such measures could significantly undermine Europe's technological competitiveness and further exacerbate existing dependencies.

1. What knowledge does the Commission have of any restrictions that the US government or US-based companies are planning to introduce that would deny European users simultaneous and non-discriminatory access to the latest and most powerful AI models, cloud services or other strategic technologies?
2. Is the Commission considering introducing an automatic European reciprocity mechanism under which any such access restrictions imposed by third countries would immediately trigger the review, suspension or restriction of European export licences for critical semiconductor technologies, systems, components, software and patents, in particular within the framework of the EU Dual-Use Regulation, the Anti-Coercion Instrument and other trade defence instruments?
3. Does the Commission intend, together with Member States and strategically relevant European companies such as ASML Holding N.V. and Carl Zeiss SMT, to prepare specific measures under which production capacities within the European Union would be prioritised when making cutting-edge European semiconductor technologies available, and exports to third countries would be restricted for as long as European companies, research institutes and public authorities do not enjoy equal access to the latest AI models and similar key technologies?

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