

Question for written answer E-003444/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Competitiveness of the European chemicals industry in the face of rising energy costs and regulatory burdens

For several years now, the European chemicals industry has been warning of a steady decline in its competitiveness vis-à-vis producers from third countries. Industry organisations argue that high energy prices, rising operating costs and ever-increasing regulatory obligations are leading to a reduction in investment and production capacity, and the relocation of some operations outside the EU. This trend raises serious concerns about the future of one of this vital sector of the European economy and the security of strategic supply chains.

This issue is of particular concern for Poland, which is one of the largest producers of chemical products in Central and Eastern Europe. The chemicals industry plays a crucial role in the production of fertilisers, plastics, pharmaceuticals, construction materials and many other products used by many other sectors of industry. The declining competitiveness of chemical companies may have a negative impact on both employment and the EU's economic and food security.

1. Has the Commission carried out an assessment of the impact of existing and planned environmental and chemical regulations, including amendments to the REACH Regulation, on the competitiveness of the European chemicals industry and on the risk of production being relocated outside the EU?
2. Does the Commission have at its disposal any analyses regarding the number of investments, production facilities or jobs lost in the chemicals sector as a result of rising energy costs and regulatory burdens?
3. What specific measures does the Commission intend to adopt to prevent the further deindustrialisation of the European chemicals industry and to ensure that companies from Member States, including Poland, are able to compete on a level playing field with producers outside the EU?

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