

Question for written answer E-003881/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Piotr Müller (ECR)

Subject: Declining competitiveness of the European white goods sector and risk of loss of manufacturing capacity in the EU

The European household appliances sector accounts for almost one million direct and indirect jobs and around EUR 80 billion in added value for the EU economy. But European manufacturers are losing market share to imports from outside the Union. According to industry data, the share of equipment manufactured in Europe and sold on the European market has fallen from over 80% to around 71%¹².

This sector is particularly important for Poland, which accounts for more than 40% of the production of large household appliances in the EU, and up to around 60% for some categories of appliances. The industry identifies high costs of energy, raw materials and components, increasing regulatory burdens and growing competition from non-EU producers as the main factors undermining the competitiveness of European plants.

In light of the above:

1. Does the Commission intend to draw up a European action plan for the household appliances sector and to recognise the sector as a strategic component of the European industrial ecosystem, and, if so, when?
2. What measures does the Commission intend to take to reduce the cost gap between the production of household appliances in the EU and that in third countries, particularly with regard to energy prices, regulatory costs and access to raw materials and components?
3. How does the Commission intend to increase checks on products imported from outside the EU to ensure that they actually comply with European environmental requirements, product safety requirements and other standards imposed on EU manufacturers?

Submitted: 28.9.2026

¹ <https://www.monitor2025.applia-europe.eu/>.

² <https://www.money.pl/biznes/umieramy-po-cichu-polska-laczy-sily-z-wlochami-walka-o-kluczowa-branze-7332825285835008a.html>.