Question for written answer E-004220/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Marina Mesure (The Left), Younous Omarjee (The Left)

Subject: Guarantees for local industry and value sharing in the EU-New Caledonia memorandum of understanding on nickel

As part of its strategy to diversify supply chains, on 20 October 2026, the EU will sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Kanaky-New Caledonia on value chains for raw materials, including nickel. The proposed MoU does not create any binding obligations, guarantee any funding, or specify the industrial projects concerned, the partners, the volumes or the pricing conditions. The only requirement is for a roadmap to be drawn up within six months of the MoU being signed.

Given that Kanaky-New Caledonia is facing challenges, particularly in its metal industry:

1. What action does the Commission intend to take to ensure that Kanaky-New Caledonia benefits from the value created, prioritising local processing and industrial and economic development, as well as ensuring that Caledonians have an equity stake, are involved in decision-making and share in the profits?

2. What specific commitments does it plan to secure from industrial partners on financing, volumes, decent and sustainable employment and pricing conditions, and what EU instruments does it intend to mobilise to support factories?

3. Does it intend to genuinely involve Kanaky-New Caledonia’s institutions, the provinces, the Congress, the customary authorities and local economic operators in drawing up the roadmap and in defining and monitoring the projects selected?

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