

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000553/25
to the Commission**

**Șerban Dimitrie Sturdza (ECR), Adrian-George Axinia (ECR), Georgiana Teodorescu (ECR), António Tânger Corrêa (Pfe), Rihards Kols (ECR), Adam Bielan (ECR), Ewa Zajączkowska-Hernik (ESN), Aurelijus Veryga (ECR), Ivaylo Valchev (ECR), Filip Turek (Pfe), Marion Maréchal (ECR), Margarita de la Pisa Carrión (Pfe), Jorge Martín Frías (Pfe), Jorge Buxadé Villalba (Pfe), Jadwiga Wiśniewska (ECR), Dominik Tarczyński (ECR), Sebastian Tynkkynen (ECR), Charlie Weimers (ECR), Beatrice Timgren (ECR), Nicolas Bay (ECR), Dick Erixon (ECR), Laurence Trochu (ECR), Kosma Złotowski (ECR), Diana Iovanovici Șoșoacă (NI), Luis-Vicențiu Lazarus (NI), Klara Dostalova (Pfe), Ondřej Krutílek (ECR), Fernand Kartheiser (ECR), Tomáš Kubín (Pfe), Tiago Moreira de Sá (Pfe), Claudiu-Richard Târziu (ECR)
(6 February 2025)**

Subject: Safeguarding European industry: confronting the European Green Deal's economic and industrial consequences within the framework of the Competitiveness Compass

The Competitiveness Compass rightly acknowledges the serious challenges the European economy faces, yet it fails to address the core issue: the excessive regulatory burden and skyrocketing energy costs driven by the European Green Deal, which is crippling European industry, driving companies offshore and eroding our strategic autonomy. Meanwhile, our global competitors — the US and China — are prioritising industrial growth and energy security over ideological constraints.

Europe cannot afford more self-imposed economic decline. We need a radical change of course.

1. Will the Commission acknowledge the incompatibility between the European Green Deal and saving European industrial competitiveness by initiating a process to phase out its most damaging measures to prevent further deindustrialisation?
2. How would the Commission justify maintaining policies that erode European competitiveness while major global economies pursue more pragmatic approaches, and will it commit to a comprehensive reassessment of climate legislation to ensure alignment with the EU's economic growth imperatives and energy security priorities?
3. How does the Commission justify pursuing policies that deepen Europe's dependency on non-EU countries for critical raw materials while undermining our industrial base, and what concrete measures will it take to ensure affordable and secure energy for European businesses, beyond an unrealistic reliance on intermittent renewables?

Submitted: 6.2.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné on behalf of the European Commission
(5 May 2025)**

1. The Green Deal ⁽¹⁾ aims at positioning Europe as the first climate-neutral continent in a fair, cost effective and competitive way. The Clean Industrial Deal ⁽²⁾ has continued this path by strengthening the business case for decarbonisation and competitiveness in the EU ⁽³⁾ through actions to improve access to affordable energy, lead markets, public and private investments, materials and resources, global markets, skills and quality jobs. To tailor actions to the needs of individual industries, work goes on with the preparation of sector specific plans, such as those for the automotive ⁽⁴⁾, steel, and metal ⁽⁵⁾ sectors. The recent simplification package ⁽⁶⁾ shows the Commission's focus also on horizontal enablers necessary for a competitive economy.
2. EU's industry faces higher energy prices than those of our trading partners and unfair global competition due to overcapacities from other countries. To address this and support the green transition, the Commission adopted the Affordable Energy Action Plan ⁽⁷⁾. Reducing dependency on hydrocarbons and expanding clean technologies is key for EU's energy security. The Clean Industrial Deal targets 100 GW of renewable electricity generation and boosting recycling and use of secondary materials that require less energy than extraction and processing of virgin materials. The EU remains committed to its decarbonisation objectives.
3. In addition to strengthening its domestic supply chains and resilience, the EU remains committed to the effective implementation of critical raw materials policies through strategic partnerships with countries rich in these resources and boosting recycling.

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/delivering-european-green-deal_en

⁽²⁾ COM(2025) 85 final of 26.2.2025.

⁽³⁾ See also the Competitiveness Compass communication, COM(2025) 30 final of 29.1.2025.

⁽⁴⁾ See the Industrial Action Plan for an Automotive Sector, COM(2025) 95 final of 05.3.2025.

⁽⁵⁾ See the Steel and Metals Action Plan, COM(2025) 30 final of 19.3.2025.

⁽⁶⁾ https://finance.ec.europa.eu/publications/commission-simplifies-rules-sustainability-and-eu-investments-delivering-over-eu6-billion_en

⁽⁷⁾ https://energy.ec.europa.eu/strategy/affordable-energy_en