

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000748/25
to the Commission
Yannis Maniatis (S&D)
(14 February 2025)**

Subject: Absence of a new EU heating and cooling strategy

Bearing in mind that the most recent EU heating and cooling strategy dates back to 2016 and that solar thermal energy technology is developed and produced in the EU, providing European industry and agricultural production with cheap and green thermal energy that is not dependent on geopolitical and economic developments and allows for lower household energy bills and CO₂ emissions in buildings, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Does it plan to present a new heating and cooling strategy as part of its targets for reducing emissions by 90% by 2040 and for improving energy security and reducing energy costs, finally leading to a 'Made in Europe' solar industry that will boost the EU's competitiveness?
2. What measures does it intend to put forward as part of the Clean Industrial Deal, so that Europe's dynamic solar thermal energy system manufacturing industry can continue to grow despite — often unfair — international competition, avoiding the mistakes that doomed European solar panel production in the previous decade?

Submitted: 14.2.2025

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(8 April 2025)**

On 26 February 2025, the Commission adopted the action plan for Affordable Energy ⁽¹⁾, explicitly pointing to the adoption of two strategies that will shape EU policy in the heating and cooling sector, namely the Electrification Action Plan and the Heating and Cooling Strategy.

These strategies aim to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and lower our greenhouse gas emissions by tighter integration of various parts of our energy system and capturing the potential of clean energy sources, including solar energy. The Commission plans to adopt these strategies in the first quarter of 2026.

The communication on the Clean Industrial Deal ⁽²⁾, adopted by the Commission on 26 February 2025, lists several business drivers relevant for EU-made clean energy technologies, such as promoting the market, expanding financing possibilities for consumers and improving the availability of skilled workforce.

Specifically for the manufacturing of solar energy systems, some of the relevant initiatives arising from Clean Industrial Deal for 2025 are new Clean Industrial Deal State Aid Framework (planned for the second quarter of 2025) and guidance on social leasing for clean products (planned for 2025).

The communication also underlined that the Commission would also continue to make fast and efficient use of Trade Defence Instruments, such as anti-dumping or anti-subsidy duties where necessary.

⁽¹⁾ https://energy.ec.europa.eu/strategy/affordable-energy_en

⁽²⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/topics/eu-competitiveness/clean-industrial-deal_en