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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
(27.5.2025)

Industry in Europe is under pressure, due to several factors, including high energy prices, international competition amidst rising geopolitical tensions, and overcapacities in third countries¹. Decarbonising our economies is a global challenge that can be an economic opportunity, as flagged in the Draghi Report². The European Green Deal³ and the recent Clean Industrial Deal⁴ provide the toolbox to strengthen the business case for decarbonisation in Europe.

The Clean Industrial Deal puts forward concrete actions to turn decarbonisation into a driver of growth for European industries. Specific measures include the Affordable Energy Action Plan⁵, aimed at lowering energy bills while promoting the necessary transition to a low-carbon economy, and the upcoming Industrial Decarbonisation Accelerator Act, which will increase demand for EU-made clean products. The Clean Industrial Deal identifies seven indicators to measure progress, such as the annual installation of renewable electricity capacity and investment volumes under InvestEU⁶ supporting industrial transition.

The Commission is not considering the introduction of a direct carbon levy for citizens on top of the EU Emissions Trading System⁷.

¹ 2025 Annual Single Market and Competitiveness Report: https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/publications/2025-annual-single-market-and-competitiveness-report_en.

² https://commission.europa.eu/topics/eu-competitiveness/draghi-report_en.

³ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en.

⁴ https://commission.europa.eu/topics/eu-competitiveness/clean-industrial-deal_en.

⁵ https://energy.ec.europa.eu/strategy/affordable-energy_en.

⁶ https://investeu.europa.eu/index_en.

⁷ https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/eu-emissions-trading-system-eu-ets_en.