

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001001/25
to the Commission
Daniel Buda (PPE)
(7 March 2025)**

Subject: Plan worth over EUR 100 billion

The Commission has announced a plan worth EUR 100 billion to give short-term support to EU industry in response to environmental over-regulation which is contributing to a decrease in its competitiveness in the global market. This plan forms part of the Clean Industrial Deal, which aims to decarbonise traditional industries and boost the green technologies sector. The principal measures include creating an industrial decarbonisation bank financed from existing EU funds and the carbon market, and revising public procurement criteria so that they include sustainability and European preference. The Commission intends to reduce industrial emissions by up to 30% and support investment in renewable energies and clean production. Measures to reduce energy prices and create new jobs in the green energy sector are also planned, but some industries, such as steelmaking, are at risk of rapid decline if they do not receive help urgently.

Against the background of the Clean Industry Deal and the announced measures to support the decarbonisation of European industry, how does the Commission intend to make sure that vulnerable sectors, such as steelmaking, will receive the necessary support within a short time, bearing in mind the risk of imminent economic collapses without immediate intervention? What are the adaptation measures and the social protection measures for workers in these industries?

Submitted: 7.3.2025

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

The Clean Industrial Deal ⁽¹⁾ includes measures to speed up the decarbonisation of European industry by strengthening the business case for decarbonisation.

The action plan for Affordable Energy ⁽²⁾, presents actions to lower energy bills in the short term, while accelerating the implementation of much-needed cost-saving structural reforms and strengthening energy systems to mitigate future price shocks.

The Commission also reviews state aid rules to make it easier for Member States to demonstrate compatibility of proposed support measures with State rules.

The Steel and Metals Action Plan ⁽³⁾ introduces several immediate measures to support industry and protect workers. To address high energy costs, the plan promotes the use of power purchase agreements and encourages Member States to apply energy tax flexibility and reduced network tariffs, to stabilise electricity prices for energy-intensive industries.

Trade protection measures are also strengthened. Before the end of the year, the Commission will propose a new long-term measure to maintain highly effective protection of the EU's steel sector once the current safeguard expires in mid-2026.

The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism ⁽⁴⁾ ensures that foreign producers pay an equivalent price to that paid by European producers under the Emissions Trading System.

The Commission provides support to Member States that have identified territories expected to be the most negatively impacted by the transition towards climate-neutrality.

The Just Transition Fund ⁽⁵⁾ supports the economic diversification and reconversion of the territories concerned. This includes among others the upskilling and reskilling of workers and investments in small and medium-sized enterprises.

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/9db1c5c8-9e82-467b-ab6a-905feeb4b6b0_en?filename=Communication%20-%20Clean%20Industrial%20Deal_en.pdf.

⁽²⁾ https://energy.ec.europa.eu/publications/action-plan-affordable-energy-unlocking-true-value-our-energy-union-secure-affordable-efficient-and_en.

⁽³⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_805.

⁽⁴⁾ https://taxation-customs.ec.europa.eu/carbon-border-adjustment-mechanism_en.

⁽⁵⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/just-transition-fund_en.