

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002055/25**  
**to the Commission**  
**Claudiu-Richard Târziu (ECR)**  
(22 May 2025)

*Subject:* Green transition — risk of a slowdown in economic development and job losses in eastern Europe

According to the World Bank, Romania needs to invest over 350 billion dollars by 2050 just to decarbonise its energy sector — an amount equating to approximately 4% of its annual GDP. This reflects the enormous burden that the green transition is placing on eastern European countries, with no clear guarantees as to the economic or social benefits.

In its current form, the ‘green mirage’ could do serious harm to strategic industries, increase dependence on imports from outside the EU and put jobs at risk. While Romania is bearing huge costs, other economies are receiving subsidies or ignoring the rules set at European level.

1. Why is the Commission promoting a climate agenda that is harming eastern European countries disproportionately?
2. How does it justify the costs imposed on Romania in comparison with the preferential treatment of other states?
3. What will it do to protect European industries from unfair competition and balance efforts between East and West?

Submitted: 22.5.2025

**Answer given by Mr Hoekstra on behalf of the European Commission**  
(31 July 2025)

A number of climate policy instruments contribute to the goal of economic, social and territorial cohesion of the EU, notably for eastern European countries.

From the volume of allowances to be auctioned under the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS), 10% of the auctioning revenue is distributed among 16 specific Member States for the purpose of solidarity <sup>(1)</sup>.

The Modernisation Fund also contributes to modernising the energy systems of lower-income Member States <sup>(2)</sup>. The Just Transition Fund <sup>(3)</sup> supports the economic diversification and reconversion of territories expected to be impacted by the transition.

The Effort Sharing Regulation <sup>(4)</sup> recognises the different capacities of Member States by setting national targets depending on their level of income.

Romania has a target of -12.7% in 2030 compared to 2005, while the EU target is -40% and national targets range from -10% to -50 <sup>(5)</sup>.

The Social Climate Fund (SCF) will alleviate the social and economic impacts of the new Emissions Trading System for buildings, road transport and additional sectors, in particular in Member States with energy and transport poverty above the EU average.

Romania benefits from 9.25% of the total maximum financial allocation under the SCF <sup>(6)</sup>.

The decarbonisation of the EU economy implies a steep reduction of fossil fuel imports <sup>(7)</sup> and associated costs, which will allow to invest in the deployment of decarbonised energy supply and energy efficiency, reinforcing our energy security and creating new economic opportunities and jobs.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Commission Decision (EU) 2020/2166.

<sup>(2)</sup> Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

<sup>(3)</sup> The Just Transition Fund has a budget of EUR 20 billion over 2021-2027: [https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/just-transition-fund\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/just-transition-fund_en).

<sup>(4)</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/842.

<sup>(5)</sup> Regulation (EU) 2023/857 amending Regulation (EU) 2018/842 on binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions by Member States from 2021 to 2030 contributing to climate action to meet commitments under the Paris Agreement.

<sup>(6)</sup> Annex II of the regulation (EU) 2023/955 on establishing a Social Climate Fund.

<sup>(7)</sup> See for instance Section 2.6 of Annex 8 in Part 3/5 of the impact assessment (SWD/2024/63 final) Securing our future, Europe's 2040 climate target and path to climate neutrality by 2050 building a sustainable, just and prosperous society.

More recently, the Commission adopted the Affordable Energy Action Plan<sup>(8)</sup> to lower the energy bills for industries, businesses and households, and the Clean Industrial Deal<sup>(9)</sup> which will mobilise over EUR 100 billion to support EU-made clean manufacturing.

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<sup>(8)</sup> COM(2025) 79 final.  
<sup>(9)</sup> COM(2025) 85 final.