

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003567/25
to the Commission
Giorgos Georgiou (The Left)
(16 September 2025)**

Subject: Increased emissions due to increased military spending

According to a report by Scientists for Global Responsibility, the increase in military spending by NATO countries could result in an additional 1.32 billion tonnes of CO₂ emissions over the next decade. At the same time, the report notes that military emissions undermine climate objectives, while they are also poorly recorded and out of control. In the meantime, militarisation continues to intensify.

Can the Commission answer the following:

1. Does it consider that increasing militarisation and investment in the defence sector contribute — directly or indirectly — to achieving the objectives of the Green Deal and the just green transition, and if so, in what way?
2. Why has it not prepared an impact assessment on greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the increased military spending of EU and NATO Member States?
3. Given that independent scientific analyses show that military spending has a significant impact on the climate, why is the Commission supporting policies that may well undermine the achievement of European climate objectives and thus the standard of living of ordinary Europeans, who are already bearing an enormous cost — disproportionate to their financial capacity — for the green transition?

Submitted: 16.9.2025

**Answer given by Mr Hoekstra on behalf of the European Commission
(4 November 2025)**

In 2023, the Commission and the European External Action Service adopted a Joint Communication on the Climate-Security Nexus ⁽¹⁾ demonstrating that, by integrating climate and defence concerns in its policies, the EU can secure a credible military deterrent and advance its economic and environmental objectives. Industrial innovation, lower dependency on imported fossil fuels and increased circularity can enhance EU's competitiveness, strategic autonomy and resilience.

Under the Commission's better regulation policies, impact assessments support evidence-based policy making for Commission legislative proposals. It is the competence of individual Member States to decide on national defence budgets and increases thereof. Therefore, Member States' increased military spending does not fall within the scope of the Commission's better regulation policy.

Investments in European defence industry can have long term beneficial economic effects in terms of innovation, resilience and job creation. Europe's industry can become a global leader in decarbonised industrial goods such as batteries or low-carbon steel and cement. Innovation in the defence sector, including growth in clean tech manufacturing, could foster the creation of high-quality jobs and enhance EU's economic resilience.

⁽¹⁾ JOIN/2023/19 final.