

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004196/25
to the Commission
Mathilde Androuët (Pfe)
(24 October 2025)**

Subject: Fresh concerns about the viability of Europe's wind industry in the face of competition from China and the low contribution of renewable energy globally

According to the Statistical Review of World Energy published by the Energy Institute ⁽¹⁾, renewable energy accounts for only a very small proportion (around 5%) of the world's primary energy and this is increasing more slowly than expected, while fossil fuels still do the heavy lifting.

Meanwhile, *Nikkei Asia* ⁽²⁾ also points out that European wind turbine manufacturers are facing stiff competition from Chinese companies, whose much lower costs and huge industrial capacity allow them to dominate the market and threaten the long-term viability of the European industry.

The threats facing the sector are nothing new, but they are becoming more serious. This situation therefore raises the question of whether it is appropriate to continue funding an intermittent, costly technology that is criticised for its impact on biodiversity and the landscape and does not necessarily generate any profits or give the EU strategic autonomy.

1. Does the Commission dispute the above analyses?
2. How does it intend to protect the European wind industry from Chinese competition while also ensuring that it does not become more dependent on imports?

Submitted: 24.10.2025

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(4 February 2026)**

While fossil fuels still represent the majority of primary as well as final energy consumption globally and in the EU, the share of renewable energy sources (RES) in the EU's energy mix has doubled since 2009 ⁽¹⁾, reaching 20% of primary consumption in 2023 ⁽²⁾.

Globally, renewable energy capacity additions amounted to 582 GW against 57 GW for non-RES in 2023 ⁽³⁾. Replacing fossil fuels with home-grown RES, including wind, is a prerequisite for enhancing the EU's strategic autonomy by reducing existing dependencies on fossil fuel imports and reducing energy prices for a competitive EU economy. It also helps reaching the EU's energy and climate targets.

According to the International Renewable Energy Agency IRENA, wind energy is the cheapest source of renewable electricity worldwide and 91% of all newly commissioned utility-scale RES projects delivered electricity at a lower cost than the cheapest new fossil fuel-fired alternative in 2024 ⁽⁴⁾ ⁽⁵⁾.

Up until now, the European wind supply industry is dominating the EU market ⁽⁶⁾ and the EU remains a net-exporter of wind turbines and generators, as well as equipment and components ⁽⁷⁾.

¹ Energy Institute, Statistical Review of World Energy 2024, <https://www.energyinst.org/statistical-review>

² 'China's wind turbine makers boost production in India's growing market', Kozi Izumi, 6 September 2025, <https://asia.nikkei.com/business/energy/china-s-wind-turbine-makers-boost-production-in-india-s-growing-market>

⁽¹⁾ Year of adoption of the first Renewable Energy Directive (RED). Note that the targets in the RED are expressed as shares of final energy consumption.

⁽²⁾ It should also be noted that renewable energy sources like solar and wind directly produce electricity, thus bypassing the conversion losses associated with fossil fuels, which need to be converted into electricity or heat. This makes the primary energy figure higher for fossil fuels and thus lowers the share of renewables in primary energy statistics. Going forward, electrification of end uses would systematically reduce primary energy consumption, leading to a rise in the share of renewable energy.

⁽³⁾ Renewable Energy Highlights 2025, IRENA, 2025, available at https://www.irena.org/-/media/Files/IRENA/Agency/Publication/2025/Jul/IRENA_DAT_Renewable_energy_highlights_2025.pdf.

⁽⁴⁾ Renewable power generation costs in 2024, International Renewable Energy Agency, 2025, <https://www.irena.org/Publications/2025/Jun/Renewable-Power-Generation-Costs-in-2024>.

⁽⁵⁾ Renewable Energy Directive, Environmental Impact Assessment Directive, Birds Directive and Habitats Directive, amongst others.

⁽⁶⁾ European OEMs dominate the domestic onshore market with an 88% share and monopolize the offshore market entirely. Source: *Clean Energy Technology Observatory: Wind Energy in the European Union — 2024 Status Report on Technology Development, Trends, Value Chains and Markets*, European Commission, 2024, available at <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2760/0882709>.

⁽⁷⁾ European suppliers account for 83% of the supplier payments made by the European wind industry. The rest goes to suppliers outside of Europe, including overseas affiliates of European companies. Source: *European Wind Energy Competitiveness Report*, ETIP Wind, June 2025, available at <https://etipwind.eu/wp-content/uploads/files/publications/ETIPWind-competitiveness-report-2025.pdf>.

To address the challenges faced by the European wind industry, including increased competition from third countries, the Commission presented the European Wind Power Action Plan ⁽⁸⁾ in October 2023.

It has been largely implemented, including with the creation by the European Investment Bank of a dedicated package of counter-guarantees to improve access to finance for the wind sector ⁽⁹⁾. In addition, the Net-Zero Industry Act ⁽¹⁰⁾ adopted in June 2024 aims to scale up the manufacturing of clean technologies in the EU and the Commission is working on an Industry Accelerator Act to further strengthen the EU manufacturing base for clean technologies.

⁽⁸⁾ COM(2023) 669 final.

⁽⁹⁾ <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2023-510-eib-commits-eur5-billion-to-support-europe-s-wind-manufacturers-and-approves-over-eur20-billion-in-financing-for-new-projects>.

⁽¹⁰⁾ Regulation (EU) 2024/1735 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 on establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's net-zero technology manufacturing ecosystem and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1724, OJ L, 2024/1735, 28.6.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1735/oj>.