

EN
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Answer given by Mr Kubilius
on behalf of the European Commission
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Critical raw materials (CRMs) dependencies undermine the EU's long-term competitiveness and transition objectives. They also risk hampering its defence readiness targets and support to Ukraine, thereby posing a direct security risk and undermining European security. EU institutions and Member States, in coordination with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, should mobilise every possible lever at their disposal to expediently decrease CRMs dependencies from defence industrial value chains.

The Commission takes seriously the risk stemming from dependency on China on the different stages of the raw materials process. The Commission adopted the RESourceEU Action Plan on 3 December 2025¹. The aim of RESourceEU is to secure access to alternative sources of CRMs in the short, medium and long term for the European industry. The RESourceEU Action Plan includes a proposal for a new financing hub that will de-risk investment and coordinate different aims of funding, as well as proposals of adjustments to the EU-regulatory framework on permitting. Work on CRMs partnerships with resource-rich countries will continue, as well as coordination with like-minded countries in relevant multilateral fora.

The above-mentioned avenues to address the CRMs dependencies' risks are instrumental to strengthen defence capabilities, as well as defence readiness and industrial resilience by 2030.

¹ https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/document/download/01c448d6-dc93-40d7-9afe-4c2af448d00c_en.