

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000876/26  
to the Commission  
Anna Maria Cisint (PFE)  
(3 March 2026)**

**Subject:** Escalation in the Middle East and urgent need to get the India-Middle East-Europe economic corridor up and running, as a strategic European corridor

The military escalation involving Iran, Israel and the United States, which effectively risks spreading throughout the region, directly jeopardises the security of the Strait of Hormuz and the main global energy and trade routes, while the Suez Canal remains a further point of structural vulnerability. The European Union, which is heavily dependent on these routes, is exposed to logistical and energy shocks that require a real and timely diversification strategy. Against this backdrop, the strengthening and possible relaunch of the Abraham Accords, including with the involvement of Saudi Arabia, are of strategic importance for regional stability and the construction of new integrated economic infrastructure. The India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), which remains merely a memorandum of understanding, can represent the logistical pillar of this architecture, with the port system of Trieste and Monfalcone as the natural gateway to Central-North-Eastern Europe.

Can the Commission therefore say:

1. What operational plan and timetable it intends to adopt to get the IMEC up and running.
2. Whether it has, or intends to, put in place instruments and financial resources to strengthen the infrastructure linking Trieste and Monfalcone with Central and North-Eastern Europe.

Submitted: 3.3.2026

**Answer given by Ms Šuica on behalf of the European Commission  
(28 April 2026)**

In line with its 2023 Economic Security Strategy <sup>(1)</sup>, the Commission has been working steadily over recent years in ensuring resilient and diversified supply chains.

The India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) is part of these efforts, which is why the Commission has played a key role in the revival of this initiative over the last year.

The current military escalation in the region and the logistical and energy shocks resulting from this disruption make such a corridor even more relevant than before.

Since May 2025, the IMEC signatories have been meeting regularly at senior official level (the latest meeting organised by Italy, one of the eight initial signatories, in Trieste on 17 March 2026) and at technical level, with the establishment of five technical working groups, whose current and future work will help operationalise IMEC.

All IMEC signatories are already investing in, or supporting, soft and hard infrastructure projects that contribute to the objectives of IMEC, i.e. boosting connectivity between Europe, the Middle East-Gulf region and India, be it in terms of transport, energy and digital connections. The current aim of the IMEC signatories is to identify gaps and relevant projects to address these.

Infrastructure investments and accompanying soft measures are key to the success of IMEC and while the private sector will be the main engine behind IMEC, all signatories are expected to contribute to this aim, including Italy. The Commission will use its existing tools and financial instruments in this respect.

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<sup>(1)</sup> 2023 European Economic Security Strategy: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52023JC0020>.