

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001537/26
to the Commission
Estelle Ceulemans (S&D)
(15 April 2026)**

Subject: The offshoring and industrial strategy of ArcelorMittal in Europe

ArcelorMittal has made several announcements recently pointing to a major reorganisation of its operations in Europe, including the relocation of its back-office functions to third countries — primarily India. The moves could eventually affect several thousand jobs and all of the sections of the group.

Such decisions are taking place in a context where the European steel industry has already been weakened by falling demand, high production costs and asymmetric international competition. Those decisions raise concerns about the loss of skills, the weakening of industrial value chains and the risk of becoming increasingly dependent on third countries.

1. What is the Commission's assessment of the impact this offshoring has on the EU's industrial resilience?
2. Does it intend to introduce specific instruments to regulate or limit offshoring in strategic industrial sectors?
3. What action could be taken to encourage high value-added activities to remain in the EU?

Submitted: 15.4.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné on behalf of the European Commission
(1 July 2026)**

The Commission is committed to maintaining industrial competitiveness, innovation and high industrial employment in Europe via a mix of policies. Keeping a strong workforce and high-quality jobs in the EU is essential for the EU's industrial resilience and economic security ⁽¹⁾.

The Commission is supporting industrial capacities through measures to boost the competitiveness of EU production. In addition to funding instruments like the Innovation Fund, EU State aid rules provide possibilities for Member States to support the decarbonisation of industry, including the steel sector.

The Industrial Accelerator Act ⁽²⁾ proposes measures to retain and attract high-value-added activities in Europe, through low-carbon and EU origin requirements for strategic sectors and clean technologies, as well as conditions on strategic high-value foreign investments.

To strengthen the business case for industry in Europe, the Commission launched the Competitiveness Compass ⁽³⁾ and the Clean Industrial Deal ⁽⁴⁾.

These include initiatives to improve access to energy, markets, investment and skills for energy-intensive industries, such as the Steel and Metal Action Plan ⁽⁵⁾.

The 2026 Annual Single Market and Competitiveness Report ⁽⁶⁾ tracks their implementation. The One Europe, One Market ⁽⁷⁾ roadmap agreed on 24 April 2026 sets clear timelines to deliver on strategic priorities.

Furthermore, to protect the EU steel sector from the negative effects of global overcapacity, the EU adopted a new trade measure replacing the steel safeguards ⁽⁸⁾, which will enter into force on 1 July 2026.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025JC0977>.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52026PC0100>.

⁽³⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0030>.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0085>.

⁽⁵⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=COM:2025:125:FIN>.

⁽⁶⁾ https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/publications/2026-annual-single-market-and-competitiveness-report_en.

⁽⁷⁾ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2026/04/24/european-institutions-agree-roadmap-to-achieve-one-europe-one-market-by-end-of-2027/>.

⁽⁸⁾ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2026/06/08/steel-overcapacity-council-greenlights-new-rules-to-protect-the-eu-steel-market-from-global-overcapacity/>.