

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001636/26
to the Commission
Jadwiga Wiśniewska (ECR)
(22 April 2026)**

Subject: Situation of the coking sector in the EU

The revised regulation proposed by the Commission on critical raw materials does not cover key issues such as the protection of the critical raw materials industry, and in particular the worsening situation of the coking sector, including Jastrzębska Spółka Węglowa Koks S.A., the largest coke producer in the European Union, which is currently in a very difficult financial situation.

The company produces around 3.5 million tonnes of coke annually, making it a key part of the European supply chain for the steel industry and, consequently, for strategic sectors such as the defence, automotive and infrastructure industries.

Increasing regulatory costs, including those arising from the EU ETS, and the competitive pressure from cheaper imports from outside the EU are putting JSW in a dire situation.

In practice, this creates the risk of losing a significant part of the EU's production capacity and of becoming more dependent on supplies from third countries, notably China and Indonesia.

In light of the above:

1. Will the Commission take action to recognise the coking industry as a strategic sector for the EU's economic security?
2. Will the Commission consider reducing the burden of the EU ETS on coke producers in the EU?
3. Is the Commission planning to introduce market protection measures, such as quantitative limits or tariffs on imports of coke from outside the EU?

Submitted: 22.4.2026

**Answer given by Mr Hoekstra on behalf of the European Commission
(22 June 2026)**

The Commission is currently conducting its assessment of the criticality of raw materials, coking coal among them. The Critical Raw Materials Act ⁽¹⁾ already recognises coking coal as a critical raw material, and relevant provisions, such as on spatial planning and exploration, therefore apply.

Furthermore, the Commission has recently adopted a proposal for an Industrial Accelerator Act ⁽²⁾ (IAA) to boost industrial capacities and decarbonisation in strategic sectors, including the iron and steel making sector, while strengthening the EU's long-term resilience and prosperity.

As regards the benchmarks and the CO₂ pricing mechanism of the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS), the applied methodology for the update of the benchmarks is enshrined in the ETS Directive ⁽³⁾.

The emission intensity of the top-performing coking plants in Europe remains below the benchmark value and will continue to receive sufficient free allowances to cover their emissions.

The upcoming review of the ETS Directive will examine the rules on free allocation and consider how to best support and boost investments in decarbonisation and electrification of the sectors covered by the system.

On receipt of a complaint from the EU industry with evidence showing that dumped or subsidised imports are causing harm, the Commission will take appropriate action.

The Complaints Office of Trade Defence Services can be contacted to discuss the procedure ⁽⁴⁾ and get guidance and assistance on how to proceed with tackling unfair competition from imports.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02024R1252-20240503>.

⁽²⁾ https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/publications/industrial-accelerator-act_en.

⁽³⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02003L0087-20240301>.

⁽⁴⁾ trade-defence-complaints@ec.europa.eu.