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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
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Competitiveness ranks high on the EU's political agenda. In the current international context, the resilience of the EU's industrial base and supply chains is an important safeguard not only for Europe's economic growth and social model but also for its freedom, security and strategic autonomy. Furthermore, the recent war in Iran has once again shown the need for the EU to rely more on home-grown clean energy and to reduce its dependencies on imported fossil fuels.

Since the start of this mandate, the Competitiveness Compass strategy¹ has set out the key axes of the Commission's policy action. It capitalises on Draghi's insightful report and revolves around three pillars: closing the innovation gap, having a joint roadmap for decarbonisation and competitiveness, and reducing excessive dependencies and increasing security. It also recalls the importance of a well-functioning Single Market as the central enabler for the competitiveness of the European economy as well as the need for simplification and administrative burden reduction, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises.

In the One Europe, One Market Roadmap of the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the Commission², the three institutions commit to adopt the key initiatives for the Single Market within tight deadlines. For instance, one of the initiatives included in the Roadmap is the Industrial Accelerator Act³, which should be adopted by the end of 2026. The Act will strengthen industrial competitiveness through faster industrial permitting and the creation of lead markets for low-carbon and made-in-EU products in strategic areas.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0030>.

² https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_26_878.

³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52026PC0100>.