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Answer given by Ms Šuica
on behalf of the European Commission
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The Commission considers the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) a strategically important initiative. Its core objective is to strengthen connectivity between Europe, the Middle East and the Indo-Pacific, and support resilient, efficient and sustainable links in the areas of transport, energy and digital infrastructure.

Recent events, notably the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, have made IMEC more relevant than ever, reinforcing the need for diversified supply routes. This is fully acknowledged by IMEC signatories who regularly meet at senior officials' level. The Commission, alongside other IMEC signatories, considers IMEC to be a 'network of corridors' which can extend beyond the initial route envisaged in the Memorandum of Understanding.

In this context, IMEC is envisaged as a broader and more flexible network. The EU sees IMEC as part of a set of diverse but interconnected initiatives that improve connectivity between Europe, the Middle East and India, promoting inclusiveness, complementarity and flexibility rather than competition. This applies to the Ankara–Riyadh initiative and to other routes under development in the region.

The Commission will continue to work with IMEC signatories and relevant stakeholders to advance viable projects and collectively support the broader objective of diversified, resilient and efficient connectivity, therefore maximising the geoeconomic effectiveness of IMEC.