

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002989/26
to the Commission
Moritz Körner (Renew)
(15 July 2026)**

Subject: AI dependency

Companies such as ASML Holding N.V. and Carl Zeiss SMT possess technologies that are vitally important for manufacturing cutting-edge semiconductors and for which there is no easy substitute in the short term. Europe therefore occupies a strategically important position in the global semiconductor supply chain.

At the same time, there is a risk that third countries could restrict the access of European companies, research institutes and public authorities to the latest AI models, supercomputers, cloud services or other key digital technologies. Such measures could significantly undermine Europe's technological competitiveness and further exacerbate existing dependencies.

1. What knowledge does the Commission have of any restrictions that the US government or US-based companies are planning to introduce that would deny European users simultaneous and non-discriminatory access to the latest and most powerful AI models, cloud services or other strategic technologies?
2. Is the Commission considering introducing an automatic European reciprocity mechanism under which any such access restrictions imposed by third countries would immediately trigger the review, suspension or restriction of European export licences for critical semiconductor technologies, systems, components, software and patents, in particular within the framework of the EU Dual-Use Regulation, the Anti-Coercion Instrument and other trade defence instruments?
3. Does the Commission intend, together with Member States and strategically relevant European companies such as ASML Holding N.V. and Carl Zeiss SMT, to prepare specific measures under which production capacities within the European Union would be prioritised when making cutting-edge European semiconductor technologies available, and exports to third countries would be restricted for as long as European companies, research institutes and public authorities do not enjoy equal access to the latest AI models and similar key technologies?

Submitted: 15.7.2026

**Answer given by Mr Šefčovič on behalf of the European Commission
(1 September 2026)**

The Commission is closely monitoring developments in third countries' policies that may affect the EU's access to strategic digital technologies, including advanced AI models, cloud services, high-performance computing resources and other critical inputs that underpin Europe's innovation capacity and competitiveness.

The Commission remains in regular contact with Member States, relevant stakeholders and international partners to monitor possible restrictions or discriminatory measures affecting European companies, research organisations, and public authorities.

In this context, the Commission will continue to carefully assess any information concerning actual or envisaged measures by a third country government or by third country-based providers that could limit timely, effective and non-discriminatory access to such technologies for European users.

The Commission is committed to strengthening the EU's technological and industrial base in line with the objectives of Europe's tech sovereignty agenda.

In the recently proposed Tech Sovereignty Package ⁽¹⁾, the Commission is taking forward measures to reinforce the security of supply, reduce strategic dependencies and support the development and scaling-up of critical technologies and production capacities in Europe, including in sectors of strategic importance such as advanced semiconductors. The Chips Act 2.0 proposal ⁽²⁾ sets out such measures for the semiconductor domain.

⁽¹⁾ Commission proposes tech sovereignty package to strengthen Europe's digital autonomy and resilience — https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_26_1187.

⁽²⁾ Proposal for the Chips Act 2.0, Shaping Europe's digital future — <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/proposal-chips-act-20>.