

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-001967/25
to the Commission
Bart Groothuis (Renew)
(15 May 2025)**

Subject: Toolbox to restrict risky photovoltaic (PV) inverters from European electricity grid

Huawei, designated a risky vendor by the Commission, accounts for over 115 GW of the solar inverter market share ⁽¹⁾ in Europe. It is one of six Chinese vendors that collectively control over 219 GW. Given that Spain's grid collapsed after a 2.2 GW drop, these vendors could remotely shut down Europe's grid. Reports ⁽²⁾ of rogue communication devices in Chinese inverters, allowing them to bypass firewalls, further highlight the need for action.

The NIS 2 Directive ⁽³⁾ allows the Commission to conduct coordinated risk assessments of critical supply chains, such as those carried out for 5G. The Council conclusions of October 2022 invite the Network and Information Systems Cooperation Group and the Commission to develop a toolbox for reducing information and communication technology supply chain risks beyond 5G, also covering non-technical risk factors.

1. Why does the Commission label Huawei a risky 5G vendor, banning it from its contracts and research, yet take no action on PV inverters, and does it not consider this risky dependency to be a threat to European energy security?
2. Will the Commission conduct a coordinated risk assessment and develop a toolbox that also restricts risky vendors of PV inverters?
3. Will the Commission classify PV inverters as 'important products with digital elements that fall under class I' in accordance with the Cyber Resilience Act ⁽⁴⁾?

Submitted: 15.5.2025

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(12 August 2025)**

The Commission and the Network and Information Systems (NIS) Cooperation Group, with the support of the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA), have already identified and assessed risks for electricity networks.

The subsequent report was published in July 2024 ⁽¹⁾, and identified a number of risk scenarios related to 'product suppliers' from third countries.

Under the directive (EU) 2022/2555 on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union ⁽²⁾, cybersecurity risk assessments are underway in several areas of the sectors of high criticality in Annex I to that directive.

The Commission is carrying out a risk assessment for wind under the Wind Package, and a similar assessment will be carried out for solar energy infrastructure. The Commission will follow up with concrete measures.

In addition, the NIS Cooperation Group is currently working on the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Supply Chain Toolbox that will establish a common approach to secure ICT supply chains across the Union.

The ICT Supply Chain Toolbox will outline key concepts related to ICT supply chain security, identify potential risk scenarios within the Union, and lay down recommendations to help address and mitigate these risks.

Photovoltaic (PV) inverters despite not qualifying as critical products with digital elements listed in Annexes III and IV of the Cyber resilience Act, fall under the essential requirements laid down in the Cyber Resilience Act, which need to be fully applied.

¹ https://api.solarpowereurope.org/uploads/SPE_2025_Solutions_for_PV_Cyber_Risks_to_Grid_Stability_032dc2ae5a.pdf?updated_at=2025-04-29T07:11:32.315Z.

² <https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/climate-energy/ghost-machine-rogue-communication-devices-found-chinese-inverters-2025-05-14/>.

³ Directive (EU) 2022/2555 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2022 on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union, amending Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 and Directive (EU) 2018/1972, and repealing Directive (EU) 2016/1148 (OJ L 333, 27.12.2022, p. 80, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2022/2555/oj>).

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2024/2847 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2024 on horizontal cybersecurity requirements for products with digital elements and amending Regulations (EU) No 168/2013 and (EU) 2019/1020 and Directive (EU) 2020/1828 (OJ L, 2024/2847, 20.11.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2847/oj>).

⁽¹⁾ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/risk-assessment-report-cyber-resilience-eus-telecommunications-and-electricity-sectors>.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2022/2555/2022-12-27/eng>.

Finally, the Commission announced in the action plan for Affordable Energy a Strategic Roadmap for Digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence for the Energy Sector in 2026 with an in-depth industry specific risk assessments for solar power installations.
