

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-002120/26
to the Commission
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(22 May 2026)**

Subject: Electrolux's restructuring plan and the impact of European industrial policies on the manufacturing sector

Multinational company Electrolux has announced a restructuring plan involving around 1 700 lay-offs in Italy, the closure of the Cerreto d'Esi facility, major production and job cuts at the Porcia plant in Friuli-Venezia Giulia and the scaling down of operations at a number of other sites in the country.

This decision is a major concern for workers and industry alike — not least because Electrolux has, in recent years, been financed by national and European research, innovation and industrial transition funds.

The group's announcement also highlights the shortcomings of EU industrial policy and the risk that the high energy costs and increasing regulatory burdens resulting from the Union's regulatory framework will end up penalising European producers and paving the way for delocalisation and deindustrialisation.

The Electrolux case is also emblematic of the contradictions inherent in instruments like CBAM, which are supposed to safeguard the competitiveness of EU industries vis-a-vis third countries.

In the light of the above:

1. Will the Commission check whether the aforementioned EU funding was conditional on Electrolux protecting jobs and maintaining their production capacity?
2. Will the Commission review the EU's environmental and industrial regulatory frameworks so as to prevent further deindustrialisation in the European manufacturing sector?

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**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné on behalf of the European Commission
(13 July 2026)**

Electrolux Italy received EU research and innovation funding under FP7, Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe ⁽¹⁾. Under these programmes, job protection or the maintenance of production capacity is not an eligibility or award criterion. Proposals are assessed against the award criteria, including expected impact, which is defined for each call topic.

Measures like the Clean Industrial Deal ⁽²⁾, the Industrial Accelerator Act ⁽³⁾, the omnibus regulations ⁽⁴⁾ and various other initiatives will help strengthen the EU's economy.

The Commission is pursuing an ambitious simplification agenda to reduce administrative burden and to support Europe's industrial base while delivering on the green transition.

In several areas, including the area of the environment, simplification measures have already been taken, and work on further simplification continues.

For example, as part of its efforts, the Commission has presented an Energy Product Legislation Omnibus proposal ⁽⁵⁾ that will simplify certain energy labelling rules for appliance manufacturers like Electrolux whilst fully preserving and improving the benefits of the policy for consumers through smarter implementation and digital tools.

⁽¹⁾ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/org-details/998312749?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=lastModified&keywords=998312749&isExactMatch=true&type=ORGANISATION,PERSON&frameworkProgramme=43108390>.

⁽²⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/topics/competitiveness/clean-industrial-deal_en.

⁽³⁾ https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/publications/industrial-accelerator-act_en.

⁽⁴⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-making-process/better-regulation/simplification-implementation-and-enforcement/simplification_en

⁽⁵⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/news-and-media/news/simplifying-eu-rules-support-competitiveness-2026-06-24_en.

As regards the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) ⁽⁶⁾, the Commission continuously monitors its implementation. In 2025, the Commission presented two proposals to revise CBAM — to simplify the mechanism and to expand its scope to certain downstream goods, as well as to strengthen its anti-circumvention framework. Co-legislators have already adopted simplifications to the mechanisms ⁽⁷⁾, and are currently examining the second proposal ⁽⁸⁾.

⁽⁶⁾ https://taxation-customs.ec.europa.eu/carbon-border-adjustment-mechanism_en.

⁽⁷⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/2083/oj/eng>.

⁽⁸⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025PC0989>.