

**Question for written answer E-001915/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Scrap metal and the *SustSteel* initiative

European steelmakers not only face a sharp rise in the price of scrap iron, but also serious problems sourcing it, leading to frequent production stoppages.

The Commission's Action Plan on steel, presented in 2013, and subsequent Staff Working Document, presented in June 2014, acknowledged the importance of scrap metal and announced that the Surveillance 2 system was going to monitor scrap exports from June 2014.

On the other hand, most competing third countries are known to contribute nothing to sustainability, since they lack the standards of social, economic and environmental responsibility which apply in the EU.

The resolution passed by the European Parliament in December 2014 reaffirms the strategic need for independent, strong and competitive European steelmaking. Scrap metal is important, and the *SustSteel* initiative needs to be put into practice.

1. How does the Commission plan to implement the *SustSteel* initiative, since the rescue of the European steel industry poses a real problem?
2. What specific and immediate action does it plan to take to resolve the problems of scrap metal availability as soon as possible? Can it release the data collected by Surveillance 2?