

Question for written answer E-002968/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)

Subject: EU climate policy and competitiveness of the European economy

The European Union is endeavouring not only to tackle poverty, including energy poverty, but also to promote economic development in order to increase the prosperity of its citizens. At the same time, however, it sets itself very ambitious goals in the context of successive climate and energy packages. But a climate policy not conducted on a global scale will not achieve those global climate goals; worse still, it may result in a reduction in the competitiveness of European economies compared to the economies of third countries.

Imposing ever greater climate-related requirements and successive obligations on industrial enterprises in the EU will unfortunately lead to a reduction in their advantages in the global market. Consequently, some of them will transfer their activities outside the EU to maintain their profitability, while others will go bankrupt or severely limit their activities within the EU. All of this will lead to a reduction in job creation, an increase in unemployment and, as a result, the impoverishment of EU citizens. The EU's goals and the effects of achieving them can therefore be fundamentally at odds.

How does the Commission intend to reconcile ambitious climate policy goals with the need to maintain the competitiveness of our economy so as to bring about a rise in the number of jobs and increase the prosperity of EU citizens?