

**Question for written answer E-003632/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Barbara Kappel (ENF)

Subject: Steel in the circular economy

Steel is 100% recyclable, and scrap steel is an integral element in the production of new steel. This means that every steelworks is a kind of recycling facility. Steel, glass and some hydrocarbons can be reused a limitless number of times with no loss of quality, meaning they are permanent materials.

The Commission proposal on the circular economy advocates the use of a recycled content quota as a compulsory threshold in order to bolster the market for secondary materials. Such markets are already established for steel and glass, and demand often outstrips supply.

1. What action will the Commission take to prevent a proposal such as this one from driving up the price of scrap steel?
2. What is the Commission's assessment of the approach whereby recycling rates but not recycled content provisions should apply for permanent materials, as no distinction can be made between primary and secondary materials?
3. What is the Commission's view of provisions on the cascading use of recycled materials?