

**Question for written answer E-007536/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Hugues Bayet (S&D)**

Subject: EU industrial policy and investment

The brutal closure of the Caterpillar plant in Gosselies is further proof of how European industrial policy is failing to generate the type of economic and social investment that would make the relocation of industrial activities extremely unlikely.

The EU is in need of an industrial policy worthy of the name that is based on research and development, innovation, high-added-value products and energy efficiency.

It also needs to boost investment, which will in turn stimulate demand, in order to kick-start the economy.

This will require a break with austerity and a shift to a proper growth policy based on productive investment – a move that will be facilitated by the current extremely low interest rates.

What steps will the Commission take in the near future to put together an innovative and effective EU industrial policy based on proactive public and private investment?