

Question for written answer E-001373/2017
to the Commission
Rule 130
Sorin Moisă (S&D)

Subject: New opportunities in high-power batteries

Several successful European research projects have been concluded over the past few years in the field of high-power batteries, providing Europe with some expertise in this area. Nevertheless, 95 % of lithium-ion batteries are currently produced in Asia and the market is developing rapidly. The economic potential of these technologies now lies in the new business models, which are in the process of emerging.

Several factors have contributed to the loss of competitiveness in the lithium-ion battery sector in Europe, such as new technologies not being close enough to market launch, the decreasing cost of batteries, lithium supplies in Europe, infrastructure, etc.

1. Has the Commission considered the possibility of encouraging the development of markets for niche batteries, such as the new lithium-air/lithium-sulphur batteries?
2. Is it feasible to focus on the entire value chain of batteries, or should Europe favour the development of capabilities in one area instead, notably the recycling and reuse of batteries in Europe?