Question for written answer E-005161/2017 to the Commission Rule 130 Christian Ehler (PPE)

Subject: Support for more efficient and cleaner manufacturing in energy intensive industries

Ahead of the next multiannual financial framework, it is extremely important that the Commission increase its support for more efficient and cleaner manufacturing in energy intensive industries. It remains essential to support not only renewable energy production but also energy intensive industries, such as the steel industry. This would also contribute to strengthening the links between industrial, research and energy policies.

The European steel industry is a critical industry, because of its high energy intensity and because it offers the highest economic impact of all industrial sectors, working as a multiplier for the European economy. With respect to the construction sector, for instance, there are no viable substitutes for steel. However, the steel industry suffers from the consequences of growing competition against China and the United States. If this industry is to survive in Europe we have to address competition on several fronts: trade, investment, environment, technology, etc.

In this regard, how do DG ENER, DG CLIMA and DG RTD plan, in the coming years, to support more efficient and cleaner manufacturing in energy intensive industries?

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