

**Question for written answer E-002007/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Christelle Lechevalier (ENF)

Subject: The importance of protecting the wood sector

It has been proven that wood helps to reduce carbon footprints when building private and public buildings. Therefore, the development of the timber industry has undeniable potential for achieving the European Union's environmental objectives.

According to an information disclosure note from the French Ministry of Agriculture, in 2016 (the most recent figures), there was a surplus trade balance for round wood and a trade balance of 140 million euros for temperate hardwoods, such as beech, oak and poplar. There was a trade deficit for products made by transforming wood, paper, cardboard, wood pulp, furniture, plywood, panels and wood particles.

Despite the phenomena of urbanisation and deforestation, China has become the leading exporter of wood products, which goes hand-in-hand with an increase in international freight transportation and greenhouse gas emissions.

- (1) Will the Commission come up with solutions to protect skills and the wood industry in the Member States of the European Union?
- (2) Will the Commission promote the reduction of carbon and energy-related footprints within the wood sector by refocusing it at a local level, by protecting our industry and promoting local channels?