

**Question for written answer E-000920/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Marian-Jean Marinescu (PPE)

Subject: EU plans to reduce air, water and soil pollution to zero, in a bid to create a healthier planet for healthier denizens

Over the last 10 years, the value of Serbian exports to China has risen fifty-fold from \$7 million to \$377 million. In the meantime, the Chinese Zijin Company has purchased the Smederevo steel mill and a copper mine in Bor. Local residents in both areas are complaining of pollution levels and protesting at what they describe as nothing less than an 'ecological disaster'.

1. Is the Commission fully apprised of what is going on in the Serbian towns of Bor and Smederevo, the resulting pollution levels and the environmental impact thereof on the surrounding areas?
2. What approach has been adopted by the Commission in its talks with Serbia with a view to improving matters?