

**Question for written answer E-001778/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Promotion of timber construction in the EU

Buildings account for around 40% of overall energy consumption and approximately 36% of the greenhouse gas emissions associated with energy use in the EU. As the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, mentioned in her State of the Union Address, the construction sector, however, can be turned from a carbon source into a carbon sink, if preference is shown for organic building materials like wood.

The Commission's Renovation Wave Strategy, published on 14 October 2020, even states that besides stocking carbon emissions, timber construction avoids emissions that would have been needed to produce conventional construction materials. At the same time, however, the strategy contains no concrete measures to promote timber construction. The only measure that indirectly refers to it is the roadmap in connection with the revision of the Construction Products Regulation for reducing whole life-cycle carbon emissions in buildings.

1. What concrete legislative or other measures does the Commission intend to propose to ensure that the benefits of timber construction are recognised in the Member States and that the use of wood as a building material increases, for example in urban planning and public-sector construction projects?
2. Does the Commission intend to set an EU target for progress in timber construction?