Question for written answer E-002613/2021 to the Commission Rule 138 Julie Lechanteux (ID)

Subject: Bringing strategic production back to Europe

In the industrial strategy update it published on 5 May 2021<sup>1</sup>, the Commission identified 34 strategic products that are vulnerable in terms of supply to Europe.

The Commission states that: 'of 5 200 products imported into the EU, the analysis identifies 137 products (representing 6% of the EU's total import value of goods) in sensitive ecosystems for which the EU is highly dependent – mainly in the energy intensive industries (such as raw materials) and health ecosystems (such as active pharmaceutical ingredients) as well as concerning other products relevant to support the green and digital transformation'. The latter products include batteries, hydrogen and semiconductors.

The Commission proposes that, for each product, the origin of imports be diversified. This is a complex option, especially when China obviously has a virtual global monopoly in several areas.

This 'update' of the European industrial strategy represents a genuine disavowal of the EU's free-trade policy that has led to the manufacture of essential products being moved abroad on a massive scale.

How is the Commission intending to create the conditions to bring strategic production back to Europe?

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Updating the 2020 New Industrial Strategy (europa.eu)