

**Question for written answer E-004335/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Rhodium supply and the EU strategy to develop the hydrogen industry

The EU aims to install electrolyzers to generate renewable hydrogen with a capacity of 40 GW and generate 10 million tonnes of renewable hydrogen by 2030. The report by IFP Énergies nouvelles, SINTEF and Deloitte estimates that total hydrogen demand in the EU could exceed 30 million tonnes by that date and more than 100 million tonnes by 2050¹.

However, as a result of the surge in global demand, the price of rhodium, a metal used in the low-carbon hydrogen industry, has tripled since the summer of 2020, and currently exceeds EUR 800 per gramme². Last year, world production reached only 18.1 tonnes, compared with around 23.3 tonnes in previous years. High Chinese consumption and an increased use of rhodium in the automotive sector already take up a very large part of this output. The growing shortfall of this metal may soon reach 9.3 tonnes and this will have an impact on the potential of hydrogen as a source of energy³ and on our automotive industries.

What measures has the Commission taken to forestall this already acute situation and safeguard the necessary supplies?

¹ *Europe Daily Bulletin* No 12712.

² <https://www.energyandcapital.com/articles/this-precious-metal-just-hit-20-000-an-ounce/9822>

³ <https://energieetenvironnement.com/2021/04/10/le-prix-du-rhodium-a-triple-depuis-lete-2020/>