Question for written answer E-004662/2021
to the Commission
Rule 138
Anna-Michelle Asimakopoulou (PPE), Angel Dzhambazki (ECR), Mircea-Gheorghe Hava (PPE),
Bart Groothuis (Renew), Gianna Gancia (ID), Iuliu Winkler (PPE), Ivan Štefanec (PPE), Susana
Solís Pérez (Renew), Theodoros Zagorakis (PPE), Francisco Guerreiro (Verts/ALE), Radan
Kanev (PPE), Francisco José Millán Mon (PPE), Pietro Fiocchi (ECR), Markus Pieper (PPE),
Christophe Hansen (PPE), Manolis Kefalogiannis (PPE), Barry Andrews (Renew), Gabriel Mato
(PPE), Massimiliano Salini (PPE), Danuta Maria Hübner (PPE), Miroslav Čiž (S&D), Maria
Spyraki (PPE), Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi (PPE), Vangelis Meimarakis (PPE), Georgios
Kyrtos (PPE)

Subject: Global price increases and shortage of magnesium

China produces approximately 87 % of the world’s magnesium and is the source of 95 % of the EU’s
magnesium imports. Magnesium is included in the Commission’s fourth list of critical raw materials for
the EU.

As part of efforts to curb its domestic energy consumption, China has stopped production at 25 of its
magnesium plants, with others operating at reduced capacity. The result has been a spike in the price
of magnesium, with supply shortages predicted to hit EU industry by early December 2021.

Magnesium is a vital material for the aluminium, automotive and steel industries. Shortages at the
production level will have knock-on effects for entire value chains.

1. What actions will the Commission take to deal with these critical supply shortages? Will it enter
   into emergency negotiations with its counterparts in China on this issue?

2. How does it intend to ensure a secure and resilient magnesium supply chain for EU industry?