

Question for written answer E-001312/2022
to the Commission
Rule 138
Lukas Mandl (PPE)

Subject: Investment in security and defence

The war in Ukraine has clearly demonstrated the need for the EU to invest more in its security and defence. Several Member States have already announced an increase in their national defence spending. To ensure that these investments bring benefits in terms of strategic autonomy and job creation in the EU, the EU needs to have a competitive security and defence sector. However, it has recently become increasingly difficult for companies in that sector to finance projects. This problem would be exacerbated if the sector were classified as unsustainable in the social taxonomy. With regard to its 'Defence Package' of 15 February 2022, the Commission stated that it would 'ensure that other horizontal policies, such as initiatives on sustainable finance, remain consistent with the EU's efforts to facilitate the European defence industry's sufficient access to finance and investment'¹.

1. When will 'the European defence industry's sufficient access to finance and investment' be facilitated, as promised on 15 February 2022, and what form will that take? What kind of practical measures is the Commission envisaging in this regard?
2. Is the Commission considering classifying investments in security and defence as sustainable in the social taxonomy?

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/de/IP_22_924