The recent energy crisis – notably linked to Russia’s unjustified military aggression against Ukraine – is of particular concern to the EU economy, especially to energy-intensive industries, critical infrastructures depending on energy supply and public utilities.

The Commission is working to ensure that alternatives to Russian fossil fuels are available as soon as possible to prevent energy supply shortages. In the recent REPowerEU Communication\(^1\), the Commission identified solutions for reducing EU dependence on Russian fossil fuels by fast-forwarding the clean transition, diversifying EU energy supplies and joining forces to achieve a more resilient energy system and a true Energy Union. In addition, the Commission will issue guidance on the prioritisation criteria of industry. The guidance will focus on the identification of value chains of key and critical importance, which, if disrupted, could negatively impact on health and safety at European and global level.

To ensure the security of medicines supply, the Commission initiated a structured dialogue with all relevant stakeholders, with the aim to identify and better understand vulnerabilities in medicines’ supply chains. Energy supply for the pharmaceutical and chemical industries is now identified as an additional factor of vulnerability.