

**Question for written answer E-001921/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: EU dependency on Chinese solar energy

Since 2021, China has accounted for at least three quarters of the global solar energy production capacity. According to the International Energy Agency's projections, China will account for over half of the global increase in renewable energy capacity in 2023 and 2024, with solar energy at the forefront, and will account for around two thirds of the new capacity for renewable energy worldwide in 2023.¹

Evidently, China sees solar energy not only as a climate solution but also above all as a geopolitical instrument.

1. Given the geopolitical perspective, it is no surprise that China uses coal-generated electricity to produce solar panels. Does the EU's climate policy in any way take account of the carbon dioxide emitted in the production of solar energy in China? If so, how is it included in the EU's calculations or strategy?
2. The EU is already heavily dependent on China when it comes to solar energy. The Chinese input costs are lower and China is continuing to invest more than the EU is. Is there any way the EU can move away from its dependency on China in respect to energy solutions and in what way does this phenomenon play a role in the EU's Green Deal?

Submitted: 14.6.2023

¹ <https://iea.blob.core.windows.net/assets/8834d3af-af60-4df0-9643-72e2684f7221/WorldEnergyInvestment2023.pdf>