

**Question for written answer E-002160/2023/rev.1  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Export restrictions on materials for microchip manufacturing imposed by China

China's Ministry of Commerce has announced that from August, officially to protect security and national interest, Beijing will place limits on the export of gallium and germanium.

These are two critical raw materials, also defined as such by the regulations on critical raw materials, over which China has a near monopoly, producing, according to the 'Study on the Critical Raw Materials for the EU 2023, 94% and 83% of them respectively worldwide.

These materials, which are used for manufacturing microchips, are essential in many areas of our daily lives (defence, technology, automotive, aerospace) and fundamental to the energy transition.

In light of the above:

1. Given repercussions this decision by the Chinese Government may have on the EU market, how will the Commission react?
2. What can the Commission do to address the risks to the economies of the Member States linked to the reduction in gallium and germanium exports?
3. Can it review the current green transition deadlines in light of this decision's impact on the energy transition process by cutting access to and slowing the development of green technologies?

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