

**Question for written answer E-003356/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Reliance on Chinese supplies for the production of next generation batteries

Electric vehicles are still too expensive compared to the combustion engine alternatives. Current research is thus focused on developing next generation batteries with better autonomy that will last longer and can be recycled more easily, among other things.

The Commission's proposed regulation on batteries aims to boost Europe's capacity to produce vehicle batteries, while also reducing mining pollution. This is a commendable initiative, with huge efforts being made to deindustrialise Europe.

However, as technology improves, new alternatives to the standard lithium-ion batteries are emerging. The possibility of using other raw materials is being explored. One of the Chinese battery giants, CATL, is looking at making sodium-ion batteries, for example.

In view of the above:

1. Has the Commission provided for the research and development of new forms of batteries in its regulation, or in any other strategy, so as not to fall behind third countries?
2. Are revisions of the Battery Regulation foreseen in the years to come?

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