

Question for written answer E-000159/2024/rev.1
to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: Manufacturing photovoltaic products

The EU has increased its efforts to become less dependent on energy supplies from countries outside the EU. However, the EU must not only reduce its dependence on fossil fuels, but must also ensure the energy industry is resilient and self-sufficient across the board.

The aim of the Net Zero Industry Act is for 40 % of clean technologies to be manufactured within the EU itself by 2030. In terms of manufacturing inverters for solar panels, China is currently the clear leader in the EU market and has significantly built up its market share in the past ten years, while EU suppliers have largely been driven out. Not only are Chinese products often produced under questionable conditions, but the possibility of these companies accessing the systems remotely also represents a serious danger to the EU's energy security, which could even lead to a widespread blackout in a well-developed solar energy grid.

Is the Commission planning to introduce EU-wide rules for photovoltaic products to make it easier for SMEs based in the EU to supply the entire EU market?

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