

**Question for written answer E-000373/2024  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Engin Eroglu (Renew)**

Subject: Raw materials reserves for more strategic autonomy

The geopolitical developments in recent years have exposed the vulnerability of the EU's global supply chains and its dependence on imports. With the Critical Raw Materials Act, the EU institutions have shown that they are aware of this and have defined a number of raw materials as critical. The law does not stipulate any mandatory minimum quantities of raw materials that have to be maintained, as is the case with oil and gas. The situation is different in other countries, such as the USA, where the 'National Defense Stockpile' maintains reserves of 42 raw materials. However, even these are estimated to be low. For example, as of April 2023, the stockpile would mitigate only less than half of the estimated shortages of strategic and critical military materials and less than 10 % of the significant civilian demand shortfalls in a national emergency.

1. Does the Commission intend to introduce mandatory reserves of critical raw materials to be maintained by the Member States?
2. Which raw materials does the Commission believe should be included in such plans?
3. What timeframe should the reserves cover?

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