

**Question for written answer E-000465/2024  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Elsi Katainen** (Renew)

Subject: The bioeconomy at the heart of the EU's green transition and strategic autonomy

The bioeconomy is a growing, multifaceted sector in Europe and can be utilised in many ways. Using biomass in the production of food and materials and exploiting biomass side streams for energy can strengthen the competitiveness of the EU and combat many challenges, such as climate change, fossil fuel dependency, raw materials and food security. Increasing resource efficiency by utilising side streams is at the core of the bioeconomy. The potential and role of the bioeconomy should therefore be exploited fully and placed at the heart of the EU's growth agenda.

Given this:

1. The Council recognised the importance of increasing the bioeconomy's role in EU policy in its conclusions of 12 April 2023. However, the Commission last updated its bioeconomy strategy in 2018. How does the Commission currently view the full potential of the bioeconomy and its role in EU policy?
2. When will the Commission update the 2018 bioeconomy strategy or publish new incentives to boost the bioeconomy at EU level?
3. How does the Commission plan to encourage the sustainable bioeconomy in order to advance the green deal and phase out the fossil-based economy?

Submitted: 12.2.2024