

**Question for written answer E-000601/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Eugen Tomac (PPE)

Subject: Support for Romanian industry

Romanian industry was hit hard by high energy prices in 2022 and 2023. According to Eurostat, electricity prices for non-household consumers in Romania were higher than the EU average in the first half of 2022, being the fourth highest in the EU. Company closures and reduced activity were the immediate consequences of the energy crisis, with sharp drops in energy-intensive industries (22.1 % for chemicals, 15.1 % for metalworking). Moreover, the electricity and gas price caps agreed by the Romanian Government in December 2022 are significantly higher than those in place in other Member States.

All things considered, there is general concern about deindustrialisation and the failure to prioritise the safeguarding of Romania's strategic industrial players, as neither objective features in any of the national government's plans and strategies.

1. How is the Commission incentivising Romania to take a stand against deindustrialisation and invest better in the development of its national industries, and what programmes, guidelines and funds are in place to support Romania in this regard?
2. What is the Commission's assessment of the government's performance on safeguarding and developing Romanian industry and attracting foreign investment for industrial development? What are its recommendations for improvement?

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