

**Question for oral answer O-000052/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 136

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on behalf of the S&D Group

**Subject:** Investment practices of sustainable investment funds

On 29 November 2022, a group of international media outlets, including Handelsblatt, Le Monde, El País, de Tijd, der Standard, Børsen, Luxemburger Wort and Follow the Money published research on the investment practices of the most sustainable investments funds in Europe, i.e. those that adhere to the requirements of Article 9 of the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation.

The journalists found that many – in some countries over 50 % – of these funds still invest in fossil fuels, aviation, or other highly polluting activities, or have exposures in areas with a high risk of forced labour or child labour, such as Xinjiang. This is despite the requirement that these funds should ensure their investments do not significantly harm environmental or social sustainability. Investors who expect their money to be invested sustainably therefore end up investing in fossil fuels or other unsustainable activities.

1. Does the Commission believe that there is continued greenwashing problem in the financial markets?
2. Does the Commission see the need for further regulatory action to address this issue?
3. Does the Commission intend to adopt minimum requirements for Article 9 of the SFDR which would prevent funds labelling themselves as green while still funding brown activities?

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Lapses: 2.3.2023