

**Question for oral answer O-000037/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 136

Bernd Lange

on behalf of the Committee on International Trade

Subject: Opening of negotiations of an agreement with the United States of America on strengthening international supply chains of critical minerals

On 14 June 2023, the Commission proposed a recommendation for a Council decision authorising the opening of negotiations of an agreement with the United States of America on strengthening international supply chains of critical minerals (CMA).

1. According to the Commission's assessment, which EU sectors will benefit the most from the agreement?
2. How will the Commission ensure that the agreement will be compatible with World Trade Organization rules?
3. To what extent will the agreement cover recycled minerals, in line with the objectives of the Critical Raw Materials Act, to promote recycling capacity in the European Union?
4. Will the Commission aim to have all 50 minerals covered in the US Inflation Reduction Act included in the agreement?
5. How would such an agreement provide an impetus to establish a critical raw materials club, mitigate risks for supply chains, reduce unwanted strategic dependencies and promote cooperation on critical raw materials with reliable partners, in line with open strategic autonomy?

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Lapses:21.10.2023