

**Priority question for written answer P-003693/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: EU support for mining areas in transition

The Just Transition Fund supports regions in their transition towards climate neutrality by 2050. This is a particularly difficult process for mining areas, which need time and financial support to make the changes gradually and in an evolving manner. The aim is to create alternative jobs, change the region's image and make it more attractive to potential investors so as not to provoke an economic collapse and socio-economic crisis. Meanwhile, the example of the Bogatynia municipality in Poland clearly shows that mining areas with mining licences beyond 2030 are being deprived of EU support in a discriminatory manner. In response to a request for assistance addressed to the Commission, the Mayor of Bogatynia municipality was informed that 'The JST cannot support areas where the energy transition is not being planned, or will take place after 2030'. The Commission's stance means that, despite the planned transformation, mining areas in a similar situation to Bogatynia municipality cannot count on EU support in their quest for climate neutrality.

1. What support mechanism does the Commission intend to offer to mining areas in transition that are discriminatorily excluded from JTF support?
2. Is the Commission considering changing those JTF provisions that are clearly contradictory, as shown by the example of the Bogatynia municipality, in order to give such mining areas a chance to transform while retaining a chance for further development and the preservation of jobs?

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