

**Priority question for written answer P-002077/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: EU strategic partnerships on raw materials

Given the war in Ukraine, the disruption of global supply chains and the objectives of the European Green Deal, it is paramount that the EU strengthen its resilience and secure the strategic resources it needs to achieve the green transition. The Commission's proposal for a critical raw materials act includes the provision that no third country can account for over 65 % of the EU's imports of any strategic raw material. Partnerships with third countries in this area are very positive and are critical for the EU's resilience. However, the process of concluding such partnerships and the subsequent action plans lack transparency and any form of oversight by Parliament. Given this:

1. How many strategic partnerships on critical raw materials does the Commission currently have, what partnerships are currently being negotiated and what partnerships does the Commission plan to initiate in future, particularly in view of the priorities of the strategic partnership with Greenland?
2. What are the connections between the EU's strategic partnerships on raw materials and its trade agreements with third countries?
3. What instruments can the Commission use to ensure high sustainability standards for mining projects in third countries with which the EU has concluded a strategic partnership on raw materials?

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