

**Priority question for written answer P-002404/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Martin Schirdewan (The Left)

Subject: Horizon support programme and Blackstone

Blackstone Resources AG is involved in the Current Direct project, for which almost EUR 12 million is being provided from the EU's Horizon support programme. The precise amount of funding support for Blackstone is EUR 2 089 978.75. According to the Current Direct website, Blackstone's role in the project is to 'develop, produce and test Lithium-Ion battery cells produced with a disruptive technology'.¹

The Chemnitz Public Prosecutor's Office is investigating the battery manufacturer Blackstone for subsidy fraud.

1. How much funding has already been disbursed to Blackstone Technology GmbH under the Horizon support programme, and at what point have there been checks that Blackstone Technology GmbH has been putting the funds to proper use?
2. Under the Current Direct project, has Blackstone Technology GmbH been responsible only for lithium-ion battery research or also for production?
3. When and how did the Commission learn that the Swiss parent company had been barred from the stock exchange, and was the Swiss parent company's balance sheet taken into account when the funding application was considered and, if it was, what was the outcome?

Submitted: 8.8.2023

¹ <https://www.currentdirect.eu/partners/blackstone-resources-ag/>