

**Question for written answer
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Availability of raw materials and geopolitical aspects of the Green Deal

The energy transition in general and the production of electric vehicles and their batteries in particular are characterized by a significantly higher demand for raw materials compared to conventional alternatives. A current study by KU Leuven from April 2022 shows that without new investments into domestic mines and refineries at high European standards, Europe is and will remain almost completely dependent on imports of the urgently needed raw materials lithium, nickel, cobalt and the rare earth metals dysprosium, neodymium and praseodymium until a recycling industry is set up.

The study concludes that bottlenecks are likely to develop for these raw materials and for copper without an increase in global mining investment, globally at least until 2030, and for some of these raw materials also until 2040.

How will the geostrategic dependency of the EU change as a result of the ban on the internal combustion engine and the switch to electro mobility only?

What effects does the expected availability (or possible bottleneck situations) of raw materials have on the expected price development of electric vehicles?

Is there a detailed analysis of the availability of raw materials and the resulting geostrategic dependencies of the 27 Member States for the FF55 package and the REPowerEU program and in what way does the European Commission intend to diversify and decrease these dependencies?