

Question for written answer E-014681/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Biljana Borzan (S&D)

Subject: Sustainable management of mineral resources

The structural changes that have been taking place on the global market in mineral resources over the last decade are still ongoing today, and it can be concluded that global demand for resources forms the basis for the growth rates of national economies. In this regard, preserving domestic mineral resources is a major challenge that the EU and all technologically developed countries must overcome if they want to ensure economic sustainability and ultimately improve living standards. To this end, it is vital to facilitate the exchange of experiences between professionals from all over the world, to encourage their mobility, and, of course, to establish a good legislative framework and strategy for managing resources.

What steps is the Commission taking to build better links and promote new opportunities for cooperation between the EU and other technologically advanced countries, such as Australia, the USA or Japan, in the sustainable management of natural resources?

What is the Commission doing to strengthen international cooperation in connection with research and innovation in the processes of exploiting, transporting, processing and utilising mineral resources, all of which are ultimately closely associated with environmental protection?