

Industrial policy, single market, single market emergency instrument, raw materials

Main messages

- The Single Market is central to functioning supply chains, for the free movement of persons and the access to services and goods, especially in times of difficulties.
- Recent events such as the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine have shown that some of the current rules and tools for the Single Market are insufficiently adapted to crises and emergencies.

Single Market Emergency Instrument

- For this reason, the Commission proposed a **Single Market Emergency Instrument** (SMEI) to ensure greater transparency and coordination when a critical situation emerges. SMEI aims to establish a comprehensive preparedness and crisis-response architecture.
- In this sense, SMEI building blocks will ensure full complementarity with other EU crisis frameworks and tools.
- Also, I want to reassure you on the **undisputed role of the industry in ensuring resilience of the Single Market**. When it comes to remedying crisis-related shortages, we will not act unless industry action falls short of providing effective solutions.
- The proposal for SMEI was formally adopted by the Commission on 19 September 2022. Initial discussions in Council have begun, and the European Parliament is also going to kick off work on its side.

Critical raw materials

- With specific regard to raw materials, we have already stepped up our action with the **2020 Action Plan on Critical Raw Materials**.
- Extensive progress has been made on that basis, including the launch of the **European Raw Materials Alliance** and international action such as participation in the Mineral Security Partnership and the Pentalateral Conference on Critical Materials and Minerals, along with Japan.
- However, the deteriorating geopolitical situation has forced a stronger reaction.
- Based on a strong mandate from the European Council meeting in Versailles in March 2022, the Commission announced in May in its **REPowerEU** Communication, the intention to propose a **legislative initiative on Critical Raw Materials**. This announcement was reiterated in President von der Leyen's State of the Union Address on 14 September.
- The package is **planned to be adopted by the Commission in Q1 2023** to give the European Parliament the opportunity to still discuss it in the current mandate.
- Currently, we are **consulting stakeholders in an Open Public Consultation**. You are welcome to participate **until 25 November!**