

**Question for written answer E-002401/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Francesco Ventola (ECR)

Subject: Bringing natural silicon under the scope of EU Regulation 2024/1252 as a critical raw material

Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 lays down a framework with a view to ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials. In particular, silicon metal is included in Annex 2 of this regulation.

Natural silicon is the essential basis for many industrial and technological processes, and should be given priority over silicon metal, since the latter is produced by a process of manufacturing process rather than a product of mining.

Can the Commission therefore clarify whether natural silicon, which is mainly obtained by mining quartz ores, is to be regarded as a critical raw material?

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