

EN  
E-002685/2022  
Answer given by Mr Breton  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(28.9.2022)

The Commission is aware of the price-hikes and shortages the European publishing industry is facing, both due to the supply chain disruptions and restructuring in forest-based industries. The Commission is currently assessing the scope, the magnitude and the potential outlook of these supply chain issues and is closely following up recent developments in terms of demand, prices and bottlenecks. In early July 2022, an *ad hoc* meeting on this was organised with stakeholders from forest-based industries, including representatives of the printing industry. Further discussions on specific actions with Member States and stakeholders will be held during autumn 2022.

The Commission has also taken diverse actions that benefit the value-chains of the energy intensive industries, including paper industry, and reduce the cumulative impacts affecting the printing industry and endangering the availability of its essential products.

On 18 May 2022, the Commission presented the REPowerEU Plan<sup>1</sup>, aimed at saving energy, accelerating production and deployment of clean energy and diversifying energy supply. The State aid Temporary Crisis Framework<sup>2</sup> enables Member States to grant aid in the light of the cases of exceptionally high energy prices resulting from the aggression against Ukraine by Russia.

Through the Enterprise Europe Network, the Commission has launched the Supply Chain Resilience platform<sup>3</sup> that helps companies tackle bottlenecks and discover the most efficient partnerships to transport their products or source what they need.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_22\\_3131](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_3131)

<sup>2</sup> Communication from the Commission Temporary Crisis Framework for State Aid measures to support the economy following the aggression against Ukraine by Russia, OJ C 131I, 24.03.2022, p. 1, [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement\\_22\\_1949](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_22_1949)

<sup>3</sup> <https://supply-chain-resilience-platform.b2match.io/>