



The Greens | European Free Alliance
in the European Parliament

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European Commission must take a closer look at the EBRD Draft Mining Strategy

In the context of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) drafting a new mining strategy, 22 Members of the European Parliament's Greens/EFA Group, coming from 9 EU Member States, wrote a letter (attached) to the European Commission today calling on it to ensure the new mining strategy is in line with EU policy objectives.

Reinhard Bütikofer, Vice-President and industrial policy spokesperson for the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament comments:

The EBRD is right in drafting a new mining strategy as raw materials policy is climbing to the top of political agendas but this strategy must be in line with EU objectives and standards. The EBRD has financed coal mining without taking responsibility for coal combustion's contribution to climate change. This is not only short-sighted but at odds with the EU's very own climate agenda.

The EBRD is a signatory to the EU Principles for the Environment. It must therefore ensure that the environmental and social impacts of its mining activities are minimised and that EU standards and policies, such as the precautionary principle, proper environmental impact assessments and the Aarhus Convention, are applied. Some of the EBRD's current practices are raising our concerns in this context.

The current stakeholder consultation process also leaves much to be desired. The EBRD should learn from the European Investment Bank (EIB) and give stakeholders the same opportunity to participate in a transparent manner as the EIB did.

We call on the European Commission, as an important shareholder of the EBRD to

- launch a proper interservice consultation on the mining policy;*
- give an input to the EBRD consultation and publish it;*
- demand the publishing of the draft policy and results from the consultation, including the EBRD answers to the consultation input.*