

Brussels,

Dear Minister,

Following up on the latest conclusions from the European Council, the European Commission is taking an important step to strengthen the resilience, sustainability and competitiveness of Europe's value chains. With the adoption of *Resource-EU*, we want to ensure reliable access to critical raw materials that are indispensable for our clean industrial transition, defence and energy security, and for preserving high-quality industrial jobs across the Union.

The success of *Resource-EU* will depend on our collective ability to accelerate investments in extraction, processing, recycling and substitution projects across the Member States, as well as in supporting demand diversification away from single sources of supply. The EU-level instruments will provide important support, through the mobilisation of *InvestEU*, the Innovation Fund and Horizon Europe. Yet, they can only deliver their full impact if they are complemented by national measures.

I therefore kindly encourage you to mobilise national funding to support the supply and the demand in critical raw materials. Resources from the *Recovery and Resilience Facility*, cohesion policy, in particular the *European Regional Development Fund*, following the mid-term review, as well as other national financial instruments, can and should be used. These efforts can be further supported by the recently adopted *Clean Industrial Deal State Aid Framework*.

The allocations committed under the NATO 2025 Hague Declaration can and should also be mobilised to directly support projects and offtake arrangements that are contributing to resilient value chains in dual use and defence industries. Such combined efforts will help unlock high-quality projects, crowd in private capital, and reinforce Europe's long-term competitiveness.

We stand ready to work hand in hand with your administration to ensure full alignment between EU and national instruments, and to coordinate the deployment of funding as strategic projects move forward. Together, we can secure the strategic autonomy of Europe's industry and provide predictable conditions for investors.

Mr Jürgen Ligi
Minister for Finance of Estonia

I thank you in advance for your cooperation and commitment, and I look forward to continuing close collaboration in implementing *Resource-EU*.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a stylized representation of the name Stéphane Séjourné.

Stéphane Séjourné