

**Question for written answer E-012091/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Morten Messerschmidt (ECR)

Subject: Unfair competition from China in the EU

In an article in *The Wall Street Journal*¹ about China and its excess capacity in various industries, it is argued that Chinese manufacturers affected by their country's economic slowdown are flooding export markets with finished goods such as tyres, steel and solar panels.

Unfair competition from China can cause considerable injury to European industries in the form of loss of growth and jobs.

Intellectual property rights (IPR) infringement is a serious problem in China, as 64 % of all counterfeit goods seized at EU borders in 2012 came from China. Furthermore, 56 % of European companies find the level of IPR regulatory enforcement in China to be inadequate.

The increase in dumped imports will lead to a reduction in profits, a loss of market share by European industries, and a drop in production, employment and investments.

How many trade defence instruments has the Commission embraced to address unfair trading practices from China, and what percentage of the total imports from China do they affect?

What investigations have been launched into complaints from European competitors?

Has the Commission opened any investigations into suspicions that dumped Chinese imports are being illegally shipped through other third countries in order to bypass EU trade restrictions?

¹ <http://www.wsj.com/articles/glut-of-chinese-goods-pinches-global-economy-1433212681>