Question for written answer E-000272/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Siôn Simon (S&D)

Subject: China's market economy status

In reference to the answer that was given to my question on China's market economy status (MES) (E-013558/2015), shortly after I submitted this question Teesside Steelworks entered liquidation, which has had repercussions across the UK, including in my constituency, the West Midlands. Tata Steel has blamed cheap Chinese imports for the implosion of the UK steel sector.

It is plain that current anti-dumping measures are not sufficient to protect European industry. According to the World Steel Association's 2013 and 2014 Steel Statistical Yearbooks, China's crude steel production almost quadrupled from around 222 million tonnes in 2003 to over 800 million tonnes in 2013.

While anti-dumping measures may cover 1.38 % of total imports from China, it is important to note that China still makes up over 50 % of all EU anti-dumping cases, and that globally anti-dumping and anti-subsidy actions against China have significantly increased in the last five years.

Accordingly, can the Commission provide a breakdown of the industries that have been affected by these anti-dumping measures?

What legal and social protections could the Commission guarantee if, in the event of China being granted MES, its manipulated prices were used to calculate dumping? What threat would it create to the European economy if such a large non-market-economy state were granted MES?

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