

**Question for written answer P-001301/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Alessia Maria Mosca (S&D)

Subject: Risk of imminent removal of anti-dumping duties on screw and bolt imports from China

On 18 January 2016 the WTO Appellate Body found there to have been a number of procedural failings in the anti-dumping proceedings taken by the Commission against China in connection with imports of metal fasteners including screws and bolts.

The Commission has proposed to Member States that the anti-dumping measures should be withdrawn, and a vote to do so should be taken on 17 February 2016 despite the fact that dumping is clearly still going on.

The Commission's swift response on this issue is surprising, given that the removal of the anti-dumping measures in order to remedy procedural failings for which the Commission itself is responsible will undermine the competitiveness of firms in a sector that provides 50 000 direct jobs, thus putting those jobs under threat.

In view of this and of the fact that dumping is clearly going on and the firms involved, which are not in any way to blame, will need time to make appropriate operational adjustments, how can the Commission justify acting with such haste?

Given that WTO procedures allow some leeway with regard to the time frame for implementing decisions, would it not be possible to given the firms in the sector the time they need to adjust to the new situation by retaining the current anti-dumping arrangements and opening a new anti-dumping investigation in connection with screw and bolt imports from China?