

**Question for written answer P-001355/2018  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Hugues Bayet (S&D)**

Subject: Protecting the European steel industry against the impact of Donald Trump's decisions

The US President has just announced disproportionate increases in tariffs on steel and aluminium products, in particular from Europe, citing national security as the justification.

Should he go through with his threat, thousands of jobs in the EU would be at risk. There is an urgent need, therefore, for an appropriate European response.

The precise nature of that response must be analysed carefully so as to rule out adverse effects on the European steel industry: tit-for-tat tariff increases on all imported steel products could endanger groups such as NLMK, which imports slabs from Russia for its steel lamination plants located in a number of Member States. More than 2200 jobs could be at stake in Belgium, Denmark, France and Italy.

1. Has the Commission already prepared a suitable, vigorous response to the US decision, in an effort to protect the European steel industry as a whole?
2. Has it also considered the need to safeguard the activities of groups such as NLMK, which have to be able to buy semi-finished products at reasonable cost if they are to be competitive on the world market?