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The Council does not comment on the internal situation of particular Member States. With regard to the US tariffs, on 27 July 2025, the Presidents of the European Commission and of the United States reached a political agreement aimed at preserving and stabilising the transatlantic trade and investment partnership. The Joint Statement issued on 21 August 2025 sets out concrete steps to be taken by each side and will improve the competitive position of companies in the EU compared to other US trading partners. The United States will reduce its tariffs on cars and car parts from the current 27.5% to 15%, which in turn will help alleviate the burden on European exporters of cars and car parts.

The EU is developing its network of Free Trade Agreements and Investment Protection Agreements with partners around the world. These agreements strengthen our economy, create jobs and help EU businesses compete more effectively abroad and export more to countries and regions outside the EU.

In line with the Strategic Agenda 2024-2029 approved by the European Council in June 2024, the Council is working to consolidate the European Union's technological and industrial strength and strengthen its competitiveness in the context of a sustainable economy.

In this context, the Council is discussing proposals contained in the European Commission's 2025 Work Programme and the Competitiveness Compass.