

EN

E-004376/2025

Answer given by Mr Hansen  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(13.1.2026)

The EU has trade defence instruments at its disposal to address unfair trading practices and protect EU industries from unfair competition from imports. It currently applies more than 200 measures of which about two thirds concern imports from China, and which protect more than 600 000 jobs.

Upon the reception of a valid complaint from an EU industry the Commission is obliged to launch an anti-dumping or anti-subsidy investigation to determine whether goods being imported into the EU are being sold at below the price in the producer country and, if so, how it affects the EU industry. In cases of a surge of imports, Member States may file a request for a safeguard investigation. The Commission imposes measures once an investigation has found that injurious dumping or subsidisation is taking place and it is in the EU interest to do so. Such measures can be subject to review and can be maintained for as long as necessary to ensure the protection of an industry from unfairly traded imports. Safeguard measures can also be reviewed and extended, but their maximum duration is 8 years.

Outside of trade defence measures, various forms of support to agriculture and rural areas are available under the Common Agricultural Policy. These include support for investments and business development for farmers and rural businesses, and also support for cooperation, knowledge exchange and advisory services. Support for producer groups and producer organisations are also available for certain sectors, for example fruit and vegetables, thereby strengthening farmers' position in the value chain.

Regarding the broader trade relations with China, the Commission will continue to engage with China with a view to addressing imbalances and defending EU industry when necessary.