Question for written answer E-007055/2013 to the Commission Rule 117 Dominique Vlasto (PPE)

Subject: European wine exports to China

In response to several studies which show that Chinese firms are 'dumping' their solar panels on the European market, i.e. selling them at a price far below their production cost, the Commission decided to impose temporary anti-dumping duties on these products.

As of 6 June 2013, tariffs of 11.8 % have been levied on Chinese solar panels; this figure will rise to an average of 47.6 % if the Commission and Beijing fail to reach an agreement within the next two months.

The Chinese authorities have responded by announcing the launch of an anti-dumping and antisubsidy probe into wine imports from the European Union.

This probe, which seems to be some kind of retaliatory measure, may seriously jeopardise EU wine and spirit exports to a fast-growing market. In 2012, almost 12 % of the EU's wine exports went to China, equating to sales worth EUR 546 million for France, EUR 89 million for Spain and EUR 77 million for Italy.

Any anti-dumping measures will only serve to make EU wines exported to China, which are already marked up by between 75 % and 200 % by importers, even more expensive.

- 1. Although the Commission has already made it clear that there is no dumping or subsidising of European wine exports to China, how does it intend to respond to this anti-dumping probe?
- 2. Which kinds of wine and which wine-producing countries does the probe cover?
- 3. Does the Commission intend to lodge an appeal with the WTO?

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