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E-000978/2021

Answer given by Ms Vălean
on behalf of the European Commission
(28.4.2021)

As the Commission pointed out in its reply to written question P-001029/2021, the exceptional circumstances linked to the COVID-19 pandemic have affected the supply and demand for containerised transport.

The Commission is aware of the severe problems that the global shortage of containers and the lengthier procedures in many ports around the world are causing to many businesses.

The Commission is in regular contact with relevant stakeholders to identify any scope for intervention that can facilitate return to normal operations. In this context, the Commission is carefully monitoring market developments. However, the Commission is not competent for enforcing contracts and can only intervene on commercial practices and pricing decisions under competition rules, where the conditions for intervention under the competition rules are met.