

**Question for written answer E-002939/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Carles Puigdemont i Casamajó (NI), Antoni Comín i Oliveres (NI), Clara Ponsatí Obiols (NI)**

Subject: Strengthening EU-Taiwan trade relations

On 10 May 2021, Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen asked<sup>1</sup> the EU to launch talks for a bilateral investment agreement at the Alliance of Democracies' virtual summit. President Tsai also mentioned China's recent countersanctions against EU officials and organisations, including President Sassoli.

The EU and Taiwan recently launched the first ever joint investment promotion summit in Taipei, and the EU is Taiwan's largest foreign investor. Furthermore, the United States has supported stronger diplomatic ties and is encouraging Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization<sup>2</sup>.

Finally, an EU-Taiwan investment agreement could open the door for a solution to the growing global chip shortage<sup>3</sup> that is having a major impact on some European firms.

1. When will the Commission be launching investment agreement negotiations with Taiwan?
2. Does the Commission believe that an investment agreement with Taiwan would be helpful in tackling the chip shortage affecting European firms?

---

<sup>1</sup> Stuart Lau on Twitter: 'Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen has asked EU to start talks for a bilateral investment agreement, as she addressed a summit by @AoDemocracies. She also highlighted Beijing's sanctions on the Danish organiser'. <https://t.co/puBNvw3hSM>" / Twitter

<sup>2</sup> Taiwan denounces China's 'shameless lies' about WHO access | Reuters

<sup>3</sup> Global shortage in computer chips 'reaches crisis point' | Technology sector | The Guardian