

**Question for written answer E-003027/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Protecting European aluminium manufacturers from unfair Chinese trade practices

Aluminium imports from non-EU countries are subject to an import duty of 7.5 %. However, for products made of this material, such as offset plates consisting of 99 % aluminium, the duty is 0 %. These days, products from the Chinese market are starting to penetrate the European market at dumped prices, which are being pushed down even further by government subsidies, thereby jeopardising European producers.

This represents a significant threat for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in particular, which are the backbone of the EU economy and create 70 % of jobs within the internal market. In all strategic documents, the Commission clearly outlines support for and the protection of SMEs against unfair practices, dumping and the misuse of subsidies.

1. In recent months, many countries, including India and Egypt, have increased their tariffs by between 12 % and 24 % as a result of the threat of dumping. In the light of the above, does the Commission intend to increase the tariff rate from 7.5 %?
2. Does it plan to extend the portfolio of commodities subject to custom duty to aluminum products for end users and if so, when and to what extent?
3. What further measures is it preparing to protect SMEs from China's dumping and subsidy practices?