

**Question for written answer E-005510/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** 20 years of China at the WTO and energy transition risks

The Corriere della Sera and Dataroom recently published a set of data on the impact of China's twenty years as member of the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

It is once again noted, despite Beijing's promises and the wishes of the international community, that the People's Republic of China (PRC) remains highly asymmetrical in its trading behaviour.

In response to the openings granted by various countries, Beijing has continued to maintain state aid, subsidies, protectionism as regards access to its internal market and procurement, weak protection of intellectual property rights, state and party interference in the economy, and export subsidies. In addition, the PRC virtually monopolises and controls exports of many critical materials on which the EU depends for its energy transition.

In view of this:

1. What is the Commission's view of the first 20 years of China's WTO membership and its impact on the European economy?
2. What measures will it take to protect us from unfair practices, given the ongoing active trade distortions put in place by the PRC with regard to its exports, including those of critical materials?  
And
3. Should it not reconsider the stages of the energy transition, given the Chinese near-monopoly on critical materials, the possible threat of export restrictions and their impact on our industries and production chains?