Question for written answer E-000306/2024 to the Commission

Rule 138

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Subject: Hungarian aid to Chinese carmaker threatens European competitiveness

In October, the Commission launched an anti-subsidy investigation into electric vehicles from China on the European market. In December, it became clear that Chinese company BYD wants to open an electric car manufacturing plant in Hungary. Reports this week¹ suggest that Hungary will spend some EUR 240 million of EU money from the REPowerEU fund to support BYD in Hungary. The purpose of this money is precisely to make the European Union less dependent on countries like China. By supporting BYD, Hungary is directly weakening the competitive position of European companies, undermining the EU's goals of strengthening our strategic autonomy.

- 1. Does the Commission agree with us that Hungary's support to BYD through allocated REPowerEU funds runs counter to the Union's objective of strengthening our strategic autonomy?
- 2. Is the Commission prepared to recover these funds?
- 3. What action will the Commission take to ensure that any measures resulting from the antisubsidy investigation into electric vehicles from China cannot be circumvented by companies such as BYD by moving some or all of their production to the European Union?

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