

**Question for written answer E-000641/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Marek Belka (S&D)

Subject: Commission response to Chinese anti-dumping investigation into European wines and grape marc spirits

The Chinese market is an essential and non-substitutable market for EU spirits. It is the world's largest market for spirits overall, in terms of both value and volume, and the second largest export market for EU spirits after the United States, with exports worth EUR 875 million in 2022 (88 % of which were wine-based spirits).

On 5 January 2024, China announced the opening of an anti-dumping investigation into European wines and grape marc spirits imported into the country. This measure echoes the anti-subsidy investigation launched by the Commission against Chinese electric vehicles.

With the EU-US trade dispute over Airbus/Boeing still unresolved, both of the two main export markets for grape-based spirits are experiencing a certain slowdown at the moment.

In view of this situation:

1. What steps does the Commission intend to take in order to prevent the introduction of Chinese tariffs on EU spirit imports?
2. Given the need for a constructive dialogue, is the Commission planning to restart the EU-China Working Group on Alcoholic Beverages, as announced last September?

Submitted: 28.2.2024