

**Question for written answer E-000868/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Strengthening European manufacturing for net-zero technologies: addressing tariff disparities

One of the EU's recent objectives is to enhance European manufacturing capacity for net-zero technologies, including the wind sector, and to scale up manufacturing within Europe. However, despite this objective, in some cases, the applicable import tariffs favour the manufacturing of components or products outside the European Union.

For instance, glass fibre fabrics, used as input materials in wind industry manufacturing, face significant tariff differentials. When a manufacturer imports fabrics from China (HS code 70191200), the product is subject to a tariff totalling 67.4 %. By contrast, if a Chinese manufacturer produces the final composite part in China and imports it into Europe (HS code 39269097), the comparable tariff is a mere 2.7 %. This 64.7 % difference in tariffs incentivises the manufacture of composite parts outside Europe, potentially leading to the relocation of manufacturing beyond the EU's borders.

1. How does the Commission evaluate applicable tariffs on net-zero technology and its main components in light of the new objectives for a resilient and carbon-neutral EU?
2. How will the Commission incentivise the manufacturing of various net-zero technology components within the EU?
3. Can a more harmonised tariff development provide an appropriate solution?

Submitted:20.3.2024