

EN

P-004641/2025

Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
(21.1.2026)

The measures on imports of candles, tapers and similar products were adopted to address the injury caused to the EU industry by unfairly priced Chinese imports, safeguard EU producers' viability, and ensure fair competition.

All stakeholders could comment, though no unrelated importers or users cooperated with the anti-dumping investigation. The Commission found that importers have alternative supply sources within and outside the EU whereby their viability is not exclusively reliant on Chinese imports. Since candles represent a small cost share for retailers and consumers, any price rise from anti-dumping duties should have minimal impact on purchasing or business operations. Overall, the limited negative effects of the measures on importers were found to be outweighed by the need to eliminate the trade distorting effects of injurious dumping for the EU industry and to restore fair competition.

The Commission is taking steps to correct competitive imbalances between EU economic operators and major e-commerce platforms by directing national authorities to enforce EU product safety and digital rules strictly¹. Through instruments such as the Market Surveillance Regulation², the Digital Services Act³ and the broader customs reform, the EU ensures that all businesses selling into the EU face equivalent obligations and effective controls. In this regard, the EU will apply a EUR 3 customs duty to low value e-commerce parcels from 1 July 2026.

¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions A comprehensive EU toolbox for safe and sustainable e-commerce, COM/2025/37 final; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52025DC0037>.

² Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on market surveillance and compliance of products and amending Directive 2004/42/EC and Regulations (EC) No 765/2008 and (EU) No 305/2011, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/1020/oj/eng>.

³ Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 on a Single Market For Digital Services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Services Act), <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2065/oj/eng>.