

**Priority question for written answer P-000074/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
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Subject: EU reaction to China's actions against Lithuania

An unprecedented situation has been developing rapidly in recent months regarding China's coercive actions against Lithuania. The dispute over the name of the Taiwanese mission in Lithuania, which has no diplomatic status, is becoming more and more dangerous every day, not only for Lithuania, but also for the EU as a whole. A swift and clear EU response is necessary not only to preserve the unity and solidarity of the bloc, but also because trade policy is an exclusive competence of the EU.

1. What short-term response is planned and what action will be taken in response to China's unilateral steps in disrupting trade relations with Lithuania (e.g. the exclusion of Lithuania from China's customs declaration system, the lowering of credit limits for Lithuanian companies, etc.)? Every day of this protracted conflict brings heavy losses, and the proposal presented by the Commission for a measure to combat economic abuse, in particular, had yet to be adopted in December 2021.
2. How does the Commission assess China's efforts – as a third country – to try to influence intra-EU trade in this particular case? Is any response being planned to China's actions, which could disrupt the functioning of the EU internal market? If so, what kind of response? There have been media reports of Chinese pressure on European companies based, for example, in Germany or France, which may lead to the withdrawal of orders for certain products from Lithuania. Some European companies have already warned that cooperation with Lithuania may cease.