Priority question for written answer P-003295/2022 to the Commission

Rule 138

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Subject: Unequal treatment of products manufactured by EU producers

Poland is the third largest ceramic tile producer in the EU.

In the current economic context, with historically high gas and electricity prices and the disruption of the supply chain caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, EU ceramic tile producers urgently need protection from unfair trade practices.

In the current situation, some Member States have started to apply mandatory testing to imported ceramic tiles for certification, in addition to the harmonised EN 14411 standard applicable to all manufacturers within the EU. Such a requirement has been introduced by France, for example, which additionally requires an FDES declaration from manufacturers placing products on the French market. The FDES is a standardised document that presents the results of a life cycle analysis of a product. It is a mandatory document on the French market for the conclusion of construction contracts. In contrast, a Type III Environmental Product Declaration (EPD), which is recognised in other EU countries, is not recognised.

The procedure for obtaining such certification is extremely time-consuming and imposes additional testing beyond the accepted harmonised requirements.

- 1. Does the Commission consider this measure, which does not concern the distribution of products imported from outside the European Union, i.e. the protection of the EU market, to be in compliance with the relevant legal provisions?
- 2. At what stage is the Commission's intervention concerning the introduction of anti-dumping duties on tiles imported from India and Turkey and the procedure for extending duties for tiles imported from China?