Anti-dumping: more robust rules to defend EU industry and jobs

Parliament gave its green light to start talks soon with national governments on new EU anti-dumping rules designed to better protect EU industry and jobs.

The new rules on the calculation of import duties respond to the controversy around China’s market economy status and to unfair trade practices from non-EU countries with a heavy state interference in the economy.

The negotiating mandate includes the following key points:

- Anti-dumping investigations need to take into account the exporting country’s compliance with international labour, fiscal and environmental international standards, potential discriminatory measures against foreign investments, effective company law, property rights and the tax and bankruptcy regime,

- The EU Commission must issue a detailed report describing the specific situation in a certain country or sector for which the calculation of duties will be applied.

- There should be no additional burden of proof on EU companies in anti-dumping cases, on top of the current procedure to be followed when asking the Commission to launch an investigation.

Next Steps

As there was no objection during the July Strasbourg plenary, Parliament will start talks with EU ministers based on this mandate on Wednesday, 12 July.

Quick facts

The expiry in December 2016 of parts of China’s 2001 World Trade Organisation (WTO) accession protocol raised the question of whether WTO members can treat China as a non-
market economy and calculate anti-dumping measures accordingly. The new rules would use the same methodology for all WTO members, regardless of whether they have market economy status, but will target countries where “significant market distortion” exists.

EU jobs and businesses have been under immense pressure due to China’s excess production capacity and subsidised economy, especially in the steel sector. MEPs urged the Commission to counter unfair competition from China in a way that complies with WTO rules in a resolution in May 2016.

Further information
EU anti-dumping rules: protection against unfair trade - Update of the article and context video on China’s market status
Press release on committee vote (20.06.2017)
Press Release: China’s proposed market economy status: defend EU industry and jobs, urge MEPS (12.05.2016.)
Press release: Market economy status for China: MEPs call for fair competition safeguards (10.05.2016.)
Protection from dumped and subsidised imports [EU Legislation in Progress]( january 2017)
EU-China trade picture (by the Commission)
Committee on International Trade
Profile of rapporteur Salvatore Cicu (EPP, IT)

Political groups
News pages of the EPP group
News pages of the S&D group
News pages of the ECR group
News pages of the ALDE group
News pages of the GUE/NGL group
News pages of the Greens/EFA group
News pages of the EFDD group
News pages of the ENF group

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Press release

Tackling trade dumping