

**Question for written answer E-002326/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Hilde Vautmans (Renew)

Subject: Chinese dumping of citric acid

Given the situation surrounding cheap citric acid imports from China, which is putting European producers such as Citribel under severe pressure, current European import tariffs (36% on average) are clearly inadequate to ensure fair competition. Current European anti-dumping measures, such as minimum import prices or anti-dumping duties, have had little or no effect. Maintaining the present approach is not an option, especially by comparison with the much higher US import duty of 155%. Since Europe is not taking sufficient action, Chinese exporters, bolstered by their overcapacity, are increasingly focusing on the European market.

Accordingly:

1. Is the Commission prepared to consider other measures on top of the existing import duties, such as a local production quota for citric acid, given the strategic importance of this commodity?
2. What tangible steps will the Commission take to strengthen and speed up European anti-dumping legislation so that local producers such as Citribel do not have to suffer long-term losses before legal action is possible?

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