

Question for written answer E-003870/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Dan-Ştefan Motreanu (PPE)

Subject: Steel industry: safeguards and enhanced trade defence

On 1 October 2025, industrial actors and trade unions convened an extraordinary summit in Brussels to highlight the urgent challenges facing the EU's steel industry. During a meeting with Executive Vice-President for Prosperity and Industrial Strategy Stéphane Séjourné, they were reassured that the current safeguard mechanism, due to expire in June 2026, will be replaced by a more permanent regulation. This new instrument will maintain the system of tariff rate quotas, applying additional duties once fixed import volumes are exceeded.

However, representatives from the steel sector insist that tariffs must be set at a meaningful level – at least 50 % – to effectively reduce low-cost imports and protect EU jobs. Anything lower, they argue, would not be sufficient to stem the tide of imports. The Commission is expected to present its proposal in October 2025, with stakeholders urging adoption before the end of the year to provide certainty to the steel sector.

In addition to safeguards, industrial actors and trade unions are calling for a revision of the carbon border adjustment mechanism to include more products prone to carbon leakage, measures to retain recycled scrap metal within the EU and the creation of pilot markets for green EU steel.

What measures will the Commission prioritise to ensure the lasting protection and competitiveness of the EU steel industry?

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