Question for written answer E-003905/2025/rev.1
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Online retail and unfair advantages

On 17 September 2025, 64 consumer and retail organisations urged the Commission in an open letter[1] to urgently address regulatory gaps in online trade. Platforms based in non-EU countries, especially China, benefit from existing loopholes, endangering consumer rights, product safety and fair competition in the EU. In the opinion of the signatories, the current legal framework – despite the Digital Services Act, the Product Safety Regulation and the Green Deal – is not sufficient to effectively address these issues.

Against this background, we ask the Commission to provide answers to the following questions:

1. How does the Commission assess the regulatory gaps highlighted by consumer and retail organisations regarding online marketplaces based in non-EU countries that offer their products in the EU?

2. What steps is the Commission taking to expedite the urgently needed implementation of customs reform and thus make controls on the influx of small packages more effective?

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[1] https://www.linkedin.com/posts/lightingeurope_closing-loopholes-call-for-stronger-eu-rules-ugcPost-7373986883686547457-9ZyT/.