

Question for written answer E-005012/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Ensuring a level playing field for manufacturing imports from third countries

The increasing volume of manufacturing imports from third countries is posing a major challenge to Europe's economic competitiveness. While EU producers conform to high standards on safety, quality of materials, traceability and environmental protection, no equivalent guarantee is provided for many of the products entering the internal market via Europe's ports. This asymmetry is liable to distort competition, shrink European industrial investment and put pressure on jobs in sectors exposed to global competition.

At the same time, the lack of rigid transparency over the actual origin of the components, manufacturing conditions and technical compatibility is creating problems for the control authorities. There are still major differences among Member States in the way imported products are checked, resulting in an uneven application of EU standards. Only a common, cohesive and consistently applied framework can reduce the risk of products not complying with EU rules entering the market, thereby protecting both consumers and European industry.

What action will the Commission take to ensure that industrial imports from third countries are subject to the same safety, quality and traceability standards as products manufactured in the European Union, including by tightening up border controls and harmonising practices among Member States?

Submitted: 18.12.2025