

**Question for written answer E-003842/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Preferential quotas for Ukrainian steel and protection of the Polish steel industry

The new EU steel market protection mechanism, in force since 1 July 2026, aims to protect EU industry from the effects of global overcapacity and import pressure. Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/1457 sets out the distribution of tariff quotas, taking into account the specific situation of Ukraine and ensuring its preferential access.

In 2025, when Ukraine benefited from an exceptional exemption from the EU's safeguard measures, Ukrainian steel exports to the EU increased by 30%, with around 46% of deliveries going to Poland. In the case of rebars the figure was around 70%. The current allocation, however, is based on 2022-2024 trade flows.

In view of the requests to increase quotas for Ukraine:

1. Is the Commission considering increasing the tariff quotas for Ukrainian steel beyond the levels set out in Regulation (EU) 2026/1457?
2. If the allocation of quotas is updated, will the Commission maintain the methodology based on 2022-2024 trade flows and not use the exceptional level of imports from 2025 as a basis for increasing quotas for Ukraine?
3. How will the Commission ensure that updating or increasing the quotas for Ukraine does not weaken the protection of the EU steel market, particularly in countries most vulnerable to an increase in imports, such as Poland?

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