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Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
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The Commission monitors closely the impact of the autonomous trade measures¹ adopted by the European Parliament and the Council and submits its report to the European Parliament regularly². This analysis takes into account the information on exports, imports, prices on the EU market as well as EU production of the concerned products. The current autonomous trade measures include a strengthened safeguard clause, and an emergency brake designed to limit the imports of certain sensitive products.

Imports from Ukraine are subject to the same sanitary and phytosanitary standards as imports from any third country are. In addition, regarding animal welfare standards, while EU rules on animal welfare at farm level are not applicable for food imported into the EU, EU rules on the protection of animals at the time of slaughter, or equivalent rules, need to be respected for the import of meat into the EU.

Finally, in the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement³ and its deep and comprehensive free trade area, Ukraine has committed to align to EU legislation on production standards. For example, Ukraine has committed to implement EU animal welfare legislation by 2026. The upcoming review of the trade reciprocal liberalisation in accordance with Article 29 of the Association Agreement will be an opportunity to link Ukraine's alignment to EU production standards to further trade liberalisation, in view of its path towards EU accession.

¹ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1392/oj>

² Via the secretariat of European Parliament's Committee on International Trade.

³ http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_internation/2014/295/oj