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Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
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The Commission is well aware of the importance of the United States (US) export market for European spirits exporters. With regard to the aviation dispute, the EU and US have agreed to suspend their respective additional tariffs until 11 July 2026 and there is full alignment between the EU and US suspension. With regard to the steel and aluminium dispute, a sizeable portion of EU steel and aluminium exports continues to be subject to those tariffs. The EU on its side has not collected any duty on US exports since 1 January 2022. The Commission will spare no effort to try to reach permanent solutions with the US on these important disputes.

The Commission is also well aware of the importance of the Chinese export market and will continue to work towards opening further market access for EU agri-food products in China. The Commission considers that the three recent trade defence proceedings initiated by China against agri-food imports are unfounded and in breach of World Trade Organization (WTO) requirements. Regarding more specifically China's anti-dumping investigation against EU brandy imports, the EU has already taken action over the imposition of provisional duties by challenging these duties at the WTO. The Commission has also taken action at the WTO against the initiation of the anti-subsidy investigation by China on dairy products from the EU.

The Commission is already strongly engaging with the Member States and relevant industry organisations on the above trade discussions and will continue doing so in the future.