

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000115/25
to the Commission
Loucas Furlas (PPE)
(14 January 2025)**

Subject: Trump dishes out threats before even taking office

The European Union once again appears unprepared in the face of revisionism. Over the past few days, threatening statements have been made concerning international stability and trade relations. These threats include proposals for the purchase of Greenland and the annexation of Canada, as well as announcements about strengthening control over the Panama Canal, which raise questions about geopolitical balances in the region, without military intervention being ruled out. There has also been pressure on the EU to purchase US liquefied natural gas (LNG), with threats of tariffs being imposed in the event of non-compliance.

In view of this:

1. What is the Commission's assessment of the strategic implications of the above-mentioned threats for EU-US relations?
2. What measures has it taken or does it plan to take to protect European interests from unilateral actions taken by non-EU countries?
3. How is the EU securing its energy independence and what is its strategy for diversifying supply sources with LNG?

Submitted: 14.1.2025

**Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(25 March 2025)**

As each other's largest trading and investment partners, the EU and the United States (US) share a very robust and deeply interwoven economic relationship. The EU remains committed to fostering a stable, balanced and predictable trade partnership, while expanding cooperation in key areas such as critical supply chains and emerging technologies. The EU looks forward to working closely with the new US administration in order to tackle pressing global challenges.

Open markets and respect for international trade rules are essential for strong and sustainable economic growth. Thanks to a common trade policy, including different autonomous measures, the EU will be unified and firm in its response to any unfair or arbitrary imposition of tariffs or other trade measures on EU goods. The EU will stand by its principles to protect the EU's interests.

The EU is resolute in its ambition to build a resilient, sovereign Europe capable of addressing current and future challenges, including the green and digital transitions. In recent years, the EU has accelerated the rollout of renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions that are increasing the EU's energy independence.

The EU has also diversified its supply of gas, including through Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). The US currently provides 45% of EU LNG and 17% of total gas imports. There is room for additional LNG imports in the EU from diverse origins. The Commission will publish a plan in March 2025, which will set out a roadmap to complete the REPowerEU ⁽¹⁾ objective and phase out remaining Russian gas in the EU by 2027.

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/repowereu-affordable-secure-and-sustainable-energy-europe_en