

EN

E-000671/2025

Answer given by Mr Šefčovič  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(6.5.2025)

The Commission regrets the decision of the United States (US) to impose tariffs on EU exports of steel and aluminium on 12 March 2025. The Commission's priority is to avoid disruptions to EU-US trade and to seek negotiated solutions. Therefore, the Commission decided to delay the imposition of EU countermeasures, that were to come into force on 15 April 2025, for 90 days to allow for negotiations.

Overall, the European Green Deal policies can have a positive impact on business competitiveness by driving efficiency improvements and thereby enhancing productivity<sup>1</sup>. For example, ecodesign measures have significantly reduced greenhouse gas emissions and in 2030 will save consumers EUR 125 billion and increase business revenues by EUR 31 billion.

Recently, the Commission adopted its Competitiveness Compass<sup>2</sup>, the 2025 Annual Single Market and Competitiveness Report<sup>3</sup> and the Clean Industrial Deal<sup>4</sup>. These provide a strong foundation for the EU's industrial strategy, promoting the EU's competitiveness while maintaining the decarbonisation objectives. Concretely, the Commission proposes actions that will cut red tape, mobilise financial tools to support EU-made manufacturing and make energy more affordable. A dedicated action plan sets out specific actions for the steel and metal sectors. A new strategy to reinforce the single market is also foreseen and will aim at unleashing the growth potential of the single market.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/a5d385bd-8b67-11ef-a67d-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

<sup>2</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0030>

<sup>3</sup> [https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/publications/2025-annual-single-market-and-competitiveness-report\\_en](https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/publications/2025-annual-single-market-and-competitiveness-report_en)

<sup>4</sup> [https://commission.europa.eu/topics/eu-competitiveness/clean-industrial-deal\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/topics/eu-competitiveness/clean-industrial-deal_en)