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Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
(17.9.2025)

The Commission is committed to maintaining in place the existing trade defence measures and preventing unfair trade practices that could undermine their effectiveness.

Maintaining a robust automotive manufacturing base in the EU and ensuring technological sovereignty in emerging automotive technologies is a priority for the Commission. Achieving this goal requires a holistic and strategic approach, involving all stakeholders across the automotive value chain. To this end, the Commission put forward an Action Plan on the future of the automotive sector alongside complementary actions envisaged in the Clean Industrial Deal, notably the affordable energy action plan¹². According to the referenced news article, investments in electric vehicle production are underway in Türkiye.

The Commission will monitor developments closely to ensure alignment with EU trade defence measures and safeguard the interests of the EU automotive industry. However, as production and exports to the EU have not yet commenced, circumvention cannot be considered at this stage.

As a possible remedy, the Commission may initiate an anti-circumvention investigation if there are sufficient indications of circumvention. This formal procedure is triggered when evidence suggests that existing measures, such as countervailing duties, are being circumvented. Governed by strict legal criteria, the investigation determines whether specific actions constitute circumvention. If confirmed, the Commission may extend duties to the circumvented imports to preserve the effectiveness of the original measures.

The Commission will continue to act decisively to safeguard the EU automotive industry while promoting innovation and competitiveness.

¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions of 5 March 2025: Industrial Action Plan for the European automotive sector, COM(2025) 95, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0095>.

² Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions of 26 February 2025: Action Plan for Affordable Energy Unlocking the true value of our Energy Union to secure affordable, efficient and clean energy for all Europeans, COM(2025) 79, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0079>.