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Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis
on behalf of the European Commission
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Over the last decade, Greece has increased the resilience of its economy and strengthened business confidence thanks to budgetary consolidation and structural reforms, including trade facilitation. The budget balance has improved and reached a surplus in 2024, and public and external debt ratios have declined. EU funds have provided significant support. For instance, important reforms and investments have been carried out with the support of the Recovery and Resilience Facility¹. Greece has also benefitted from technical support². Remaining challenges are discussed in recent publications from the Commission³.

Regarding the external balance, sustained deficits reflect a relatively small export base coupled with high import dependency. The latest Country-specific recommendations issued by the Commission and endorsed by the Council of the European Union outline key challenges and provide policy guidance to Greece⁴. Among others, these are targeted at increasing productivity, strengthening export capacity and reducing import dependence.

At European level, the Commission is pursuing a wide range of measures to strengthen the Union's business climate and improve conditions for domestic manufacturing – in Greece and in all other Member States. The Competitiveness Compass⁵ provides a key policy framework, with actions to meet industry's needs⁶.

Furthermore, the Commission recently proposed a modernisation of the EU's budgetary framework – the multiannual financial framework⁷ – to ensure that it further supports competitiveness objectives for the period post-2027. Strengthening domestic manufacturing capacity in selected critical technologies is part of the priorities⁸.

¹ See https://commission.europa.eu/business-economy-euro/economic-recovery/recovery-and-resilience-facility/country-pages/greeces-recovery-and-resilience-plan_en.

² The Commission supported the Greek authorities in the past in carrying out the Export Promotion Action Plan in the context of the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP). See https://reform-support.ec.europa.eu/what-we-do/competitiveness/action-plan-promote-exports-greece_en.

³ For further details, see the Commission's latest analysis and assessment in 2025 https://economy-finance.ec.europa.eu/document/download/e4a67707-7a12-4af0-8f3a-9b01301e263f_en?filename=EL_CR_SWD_2025_208_1_EN_autre_document_travail_service_part1_v4.pdf and https://economy-finance.ec.europa.eu/document/download/2af158ef-d561-47c2-a0e0-5f689f1bac28_en?filename=ip309_en.pdf on Greece.

⁴ See <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-10967-2025-INIT/en/pdf>.

⁵ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0030> - COM(2025) 30 final.

⁶ Specific measures to improve conditions for European industry are laid out: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0085> (COM(2025) 85 final) and <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0378>, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0079> (COM(2025) 79 final), sectoral industrial Action Plans and <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0500> – (COM(2025) 500 final). Sectoral industrial action plans have been adopted for steel and metal industry, automotive industry and chemical industry, with further ones under consideration.

⁷ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0570> - COM(2025) 570 final.

⁸ Tailored measures are being implemented in areas such as critical raw materials, net-zero technologies, artificial intelligence and semiconductors.