

EN

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Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
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The steel sector is crucial to the EU's economy. Supporting its successful decarbonisation is essential for maintaining the EU's strategic autonomy. On 7 October 2025 the Commission adopted a proposal¹ for a measure to address the negative trade-related effects of global overcapacity on the EU steel market.

The proposal seeks to substantially limit the volume of free-of-duty quotas and to increase the out-of-quota duty to 50%, applicable against all origins except the European Economic Area countries which are uniquely integrated through the bilateral agreement².

The proposed measure would give EU steel producers the necessary relief to increase their capacity utilisation, improve their economic performance and competitiveness. The Commission is also proposing to introduce a melted and poured regime to improve transparency in the supply chain and better address circumvention risks in the future.

The Commission is monitoring exports of steel scrap, having activated in July 2025 the customs surveillance system to monitor the import and export of metal waste and scrap into and out of the EU. The Commission also places high importance on lead markets for EU-made clean products and notably will propose an Industrial Accelerator Act by the end of 2025.

By the end of 2025, the Commission will reflect on a possible extension of the scope of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, assessing certain downstream products at risk of carbon leakage, while considering the need to minimise the administrative burden. Any extension will be proportionate to the objectives of the mechanism.

¹ [https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-register/detail?ref=COM\(2025\)726&lang=en](https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-register/detail?ref=COM(2025)726&lang=en).

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/EN/legal-content/summary/agreement-on-the-european-economic-area.html>.