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Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
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The Commission is fully committed to protecting EU industries from unfair competition from imports. At present, the EU has over 220 trade defence measures in place, including on foodstuffs such as citrus fruits from China¹ and sweetcorn from Thailand² both currently subject to expiry reviews. There is also an ongoing anti-dumping investigation on sweetcorn from China³.

The Commission conducts investigations where it receives evidence from any EU industry that it is suffering from dumped and/or subsidised imports and that action is warranted. Any industry can contact the Commission's trade defence services⁴ to discuss such issues.

The Commission imposes anti-dumping and/or countervailing measures once an investigation has found that injurious dumping or subsidisation is taking place, and it is in the EU interest to do so. There can be both provisional and definitive measures imposed. Moreover, where several legal conditions are met, definitive anti-dumping duty may be levied on products which were entered for consumption before no more than 90 days prior to the date of application of provisional measures, provided those imports were registered. However, this is a decision that is made only at the end of an investigation.

Measures can be subject to review and can be maintained for as long as is necessary to ensure the protection of an industry from unfairly traded imports.

¹ <https://tron.trade.ec.europa.eu/investigations/case-history?caseId=457>.

² <https://tron.trade.ec.europa.eu/investigations/case-history?caseId=369>.

³ <https://tron.trade.ec.europa.eu/investigations/case-history?caseId=2762>.

⁴ https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/contacts/trade-defence-enquiries_en.