

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004810/25
to the Commission
Piotr Müller (ECR)
(4 December 2025)**

Subject: Chinese investment in EU infrastructure and EU security

The increasing presence of People's Republic of China-related companies in European strategic infrastructure (in particular in maritime ports, railways, energy and digital systems) has become one of the key challenges for EU security and resilience.

The scale of involvement of Chinese capital in these sectors today goes beyond ordinary economic investment and is increasingly of direct geopolitical significance.

Experience in recent years has shown that Chinese companies operate in close connection with state policy, and access to critical infrastructure can in practice be used as a tool to exert economic or political pressure.

Unlike the EU's democratic partners such as the United States, Japan or South Korea, China's legal and economic system does not offer comparable guarantees of transparency, corporate independence or market reciprocity.

In this context, I should like to put the following questions to the Commission:

1. Does the Commission intend to propose specific restrictions on investment and participation of Chinese entities in critical infrastructure at EU level?
2. How will the Commission differentiate in its policy between its approach to investors from China and its approach to the EU's partner countries and allies, such as the US, Japan and South Korea?
3. What instruments does the Commission envisage to effectively reduce China's influence in strategic sectors, without weakening economic cooperation with like-minded countries?

Submitted: 4.12.2025

**Answer given by Mr Šefčovič on behalf of the European Commission
(9 February 2026)**

The Commission is mindful of the risks posed by high risk-third countries and operators, notably in EU critical infrastructures. In its communication ⁽¹⁾ on Strengthening EU economic security, the Commission made it clear that the EU will tackle this risk while remaining open to foreign investment.

The review of the Foreign Direct Investment Screening Regulation ⁽²⁾ strengthens the EU's ability to respond to the risks to security and public order posed by third countries' operators when investing, among others, in critical infrastructure.

Moreover, in the review of the Cybersecurity Act ⁽³⁾, the Commission has proposed a horizontal framework to address risks linked to information and communication technology supply chains in order to secure European critical infrastructure from undue foreign interference.

The Commission will seek to balance its openness to foreign inbound investments, where necessary for the EU's security, public order as well as for economic security considerations, against the need to avoid deepening dependencies or creating new ones.

The Commission remains fully committed to implementing its free trade agreement commitments on investment with partnering countries. In rolling out its economic security strategy, the EU intends to strengthen its cooperation with trusted partners.

The communication on Strengthening EU economic security also lists instruments that the Commission implements for enhancing the resilience of critical entities and infrastructure such as the Critical Entities Resilience Directive ⁽⁴⁾, or that the Commission envisages to use to prevent and mitigate disruption to EU critical infrastructure.

This includes limiting ownership by high-risk suppliers or preventing access by high-risk entities to EU supported action.

⁽¹⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_2889.

⁽²⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_3007.

⁽³⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_26_105.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2022/2557/oj/eng>.