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Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
(17.2.2026)

The Commission is aware of the importance of these cases for both the European dairy and pig meat sectors and has intervened in these investigations from the start in support of the industries and Member States concerned. The EU has been using all means at its disposal to defend EU farmers and processors confronted with the abusive use of trade defence instruments, notably by taking action at the World Trade Organization (WTO) against China's initiation of the anti-subsidy investigation on dairy. While the impact of the measures will be significant, it is too early to quantify in terms of trade impact since the additional duties from China have been imposed recently.

As regards the concluded investigation on pork, the Commission's interventions together with those of industry and Member States have achieved a reduction of the definitive measures compared to the provisional measures imposed.

Concerning the ongoing dairy investigation, the Commission, in close cooperation with the Member States and the dairy industry submitted comments throughout the proceeding and also in reaction to the final determination issued on 30 January. It is noted that the final duties proposed are lower than the provisional duties. Nevertheless, the Commission considers that the whole investigation and the duties are unwarranted and will now consider any further steps.

The Commission will explore all options to protect the interests of the EU industry, also in view of the compliance by China with its obligations as member of the WTO.

The Commission will continue to monitor the economic impact of the Chinese duties on the affected sectors in the EU. If needed, steps may be taken to respond to market disturbances through EU measures financed under the agricultural reserve.