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E-000120/2026

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(24.3.2026)

The revision of the Chips Act¹ is ongoing, with the proposal for a Chips Act 2 foreseen in spring 2026. Preparatory work is carried out in an inclusive way, with the possibility for stakeholders to voice their priorities via the call for evidence. Printed circuit boards and electronics manufacturing services are not excluded from the scope of the Chips Act but the Commission is assessing whether the first-of-a-kind definition needs to be clarified to provide legal certainty to actors in the semiconductor value chain planning investments in the EU.

The level of customs duty rate applicable depends on the tariff classification of the goods. Levels of bound duty rates, including where it is ‘duty-free’, result from EU commitments under the 1994 General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. The Commission is committed to protecting EU industries from unfair competition where it finds that EU industry is suffering from dumped and/or subsidised imports. Industries can contact the Commission’s trade defence services² for such issues.

The Commission aims to tackle strategic dependencies as cybersecurity risks. The proposed Cybersecurity Act 2³ aims to reduce risks in the EU’s information and communication technology (ICT) supply chain from third-country suppliers with cybersecurity concerns. It sets a trusted ICT supply chain security framework using a harmonised, proportionate and risk-based approach.

¹ OJ L 229, 18.9.2023, pp. 1–53, <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/1781/oj>.

² https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/contacts/trade-defence-enquiries_en.

³ COM(2026) 11 final, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52026PC0011>.