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Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
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Exemptions of the measures in the form of price undertakings are a statutory alternative to collection of countervailing duties, provided that the legal conditions are met. This includes that the proposed minimum import prices fully offset the effect of Chinese subsidisation in comparison to the countervailing duties, and that it is practicable and sufficiently mitigates the risk of cross compensation.

Price undertakings are subject to regular monitoring, covering export and resale of each individual vehicle in the EU, and to on-site inspections. Such inspections may occur even after the end of the undertaking implementation period. Non-compliance with the terms of a price undertaking may result in the reinstatement of duties, potentially with retroactive effect, thereby imposing a significant deterrent effect.

Additionally, imports from all countries are subject to both regular monitoring by the Commission and customs checks by Member States' authorities to identify potential circumvention practices and incorrect declarations of product origin.

To date, due to the complexity of the product and the diverse range of distribution channels, the Commission has only accepted a single price undertaking offer. This price undertaking includes a satisfactory minimum import price level, as well as effective measures to mitigate the risk of cross-compensation. Any price undertaking offer will be subject to the same thorough assessment and will need to meet identical legal criteria in order to be considered acceptable and practicable.