

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000899/26
to the Commission
Siegbert Frank Droese (ESN)
(4 March 2026)**

Subject: 'Buy European'

1. How does the Commission respond to criticism that the EU's 'Buy European' policy amounts in practice to a form of protectionism similar to the 'America First' policy pursued under US President Donald Trump or to elements of China's industrial policy?
2. Does the Commission consider it likely that EU consumers will modify their purchasing behaviour in response to the 'Buy European' policy?
3. If so, on what evidence does the Commission base this consideration?

Submitted: 4.3.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné on behalf of the European Commission
(17 April 2026)**

In line with the political guidelines of the Commission, the proposal for the Industrial Accelerator Act ⁽¹⁾ (IAA) is a legislative proposal designed to strengthen Europe's industrial base by boosting manufacturing, growing businesses, and creating jobs in the EU.

The IAA proposal introduces targeted 'Union origin' requirements in specific strategic sectors when public money is involved, such as public procurement or support schemes. The objective is to support the development, competitiveness and resilience of the EU's manufacturing sector, with a focus on selected strategic sectors. The proposed measures concern aluminium, cement, net-zero technologies as well as electric vehicles and their components.

The proposal remains in line with the EU's international commitments undertaken in bilateral trade agreements and under the World Trade Organisation's Agreement on Government Procurement ⁽²⁾ and does not discriminate against suppliers and supplies from these countries.

The impact assessment accompanying the proposal sets out the detailed analysis of costs and price effects. The Commission's assessment indicates that impacts on final prices are expected to be limited.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52026PC0100>.

⁽²⁾ https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/gproc_e/gp_gpa_e.htm.