

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000924/26
to the Commission
Stefano Cavedagna (ECR), Francesco Torselli (ECR)
(5 March 2026)**

Subject: Imports of Chinese natural noble fibre yarns and protecting the Italian and European textile industries

European companies involved in the production of yarns of cashmere, fine wools and other natural noble fibres have, in recent years, reported a significant increase in imports from China of products falling under certain customs codes. Data provided by sectoral operators indicate that these imports are a form of asymmetric competition — which is partly the result of the contrasting tariffs which the EU and China levy on these products — and give rise to suspicions that they are being subsidised by the PRC. The EU companies concerned are also complaining of dwindling profit margins, a state of affairs that could have a knock-on effect on investments, production capacity and jobs.

In Europe, and particularly in Italy, textile hubs are a vital component of the high added-value manufacturing chain and employ thousands of people.

In the light of the above:

1. Will the Commission launch enhanced monitoring efforts on imports of products falling under the aforementioned customs codes and attempt to establish whether EU industries are indeed being harmed by dumping practices and state subsidies?
2. What instruments will the Commission use to ensure fair competition and trade reciprocity with China?
3. What guidance and technical support could the Commission provide to European industrial stakeholders in the event that they decide to issue a formal complaint under the EU's trade defence instruments?

Submitted: 5.3.2026

**Answer given by Mr Šefčovič on behalf of the European Commission
(8 May 2026)**

The EU takes robust action to protect its industries from unfairly traded imports and at present has over 230 measures in place, with almost half of those tackling unfair trade from China.

Since June 2025, the Commission's import surveillance task force ⁽¹⁾ has been actively monitoring trade flows to identify import pressure and inform decisions and actions to protect the EU internal market.

The Commission's analysis covers all imports, including textiles, and has identified several textile codes as being potentially at risk of harmful import increases.

The Commission calls on EU producers and associations to review the results and, where warranted, provide further market intelligence and data on the economic situation facing industry that will help assess whether certain products need protection through targeted, proportionate and timely action, while avoiding any unintended effects on other producers downstream.

In that context, recently the Commission shared the results ⁽²⁾ of the Import Surveillance Task Force with the European apparel and textile confederation and is in contact with them regarding relevant market information to discuss the issues.

As regards dumped or subsidised imports, the Commission takes action to defend EU industry where it receives complaints with evidence that such imports harm the particular industry in Europe.

The Complaints Office of Trade Defence Services can be contacted to discuss the procedure ⁽³⁾ and obtain guidance on how to proceed with tackling unfair competition from imports.

There is also comprehensive information regarding trade defence proceedings on the trade defence website ⁽⁴⁾ including guides on how to proceed, the evidence and information required as well as the time frame for investigations.

⁽¹⁾ https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/enforcement-and-protection/trade-defence/monitoring-trade-diversion_en.

⁽²⁾ <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/2e3865ad-3886-4131-92bb-a71754ffec6/library/e4b4b9cd-1485-491d-b5e9-aeb5e62002e1/details?open=true>.

⁽³⁾ trade-defence-complaints@ec.europa.eu.

⁽⁴⁾ https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/enforcement-and-protection/trade-defence_en.