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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
(20.7.2026)

The Commission is committed to strengthening Europe's industrial base and supporting the competitiveness, resilience and sustainability of European manufacturing industry, including energy-related products and their value chains. Through initiatives to boost innovation, skills, circularity and access to affordable clean energy, the Commission seeks to reinforce the EU's strategic autonomy.

State aid tools provide many possibilities to support undertakings active in manufacturing. The Commission has expanded the possibilities for Member States to support certain strategic manufacturing capacities with the Clean Industrial Deal State Aid Framework, helping European businesses meet the twin challenge of preserving competitiveness while advancing the clean transition for key strategic products.

The revised EU framework for screening foreign investment further strengthens the EU's ability to address risks to security and public order linked to certain foreign investments, while preserving the EU's openness to investment.

Furthermore, the Commission has proposed the Industrial Accelerator Act to boost industrial manufacturing capacities, notably in strategic sectors, through European preference and foreign investment conditions.

As regards unfair competition from imports, the Commission acts to defend EU industry where it receives complaints with evidence that such imports are harming the industry in Europe. The Complaints Office of Trade Defence Services can be contacted to discuss the procedure¹.

To further equalize the level playing field between imports and EU-made products, the Commission proposed to extend the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism to downstream products in the steel and aluminium sectors.

¹ trade-defence-complaints@ec.europa.eu