

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002651/26
to the Commission
Dimitris Tsiodras (PPE)
(26 June 2026)**

Subject: Strengthening checks on imported packages to protect consumers from dangerous products

The number of low-value packages imported in 2025 stood at around 6 billion, making checks thereon practically impossible. The lion's share of these packages were purchased through non-EU platforms and a large portion of them may not comply with EU rules. This poses a significant threat to the health and safety of consumers, who are confronted with imported products such as dangerous toys for children and articles containing dangerous metals. Indeed, 2025 saw the highest number of alerts (4 671) for unsafe products in the European Rapid Alert System.

The recent agreement on the reform of the Customs Union is an important step in addressing this influx. However, the Customs Data Hub, a key component of this reform, will only become operational in July 2028.

With this in mind, can the Commission answer the following:

1. What steps will it take until the hub becomes operational and how will it contribute to increasing the use of artificial intelligence to make the management of these packages more effective?
2. What part of the forthcoming Single Market and Customs Programme (2028-2034) will be devoted to strengthening coordinated actions and checks to better identify such packages?

Submitted: 26.6.2026

**Answer given by Mr Šeščovič on behalf of the European Commission
(24 September 2026)**

1. Addressing the challenges of non-compliant products imported from third countries via e-commerce is a key objective of the Commission, which continues to implement the actions set out in the communication on e-commerce ⁽¹⁾.

On 1 July 2026 ⁽²⁾, the EU abolished the EUR 150 duty exemption and introduced a temporary EUR 3 customs duty to low value e-commerce items. This is a transitional solution until the EU e-commerce Data Hub is operational, after which customs duties will be calculated on the product's tariff classification, origin and value. From November 2026, an EU handling fee will apply to address the scaling costs of supervising the large amounts of e-commerce parcels.

The EU e-commerce Data Hub that will operate under EU Customs Authority as of July 2028 will centralise (customs) data for all imports within a secure EU sovereign space accessible to other enforcement authorities and will use AI tools.

The Commission has also made available to market surveillance authorities new AI that detect dangerous products already listed in the Safety Gate and perform automated searches for potentially non-compliant products on online marketplaces.

2. A key component of the forthcoming Single Market and Customs Programme is strengthening market surveillance. The Commission plans to enhance cooperation between national market surveillance and customs authorities through coordinated enforcement, improved information exchange, shared digital tools and closer operational links, enabling authorities to target high-risk consignments more effectively.

⁽¹⁾ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/e-commerce-communication-comprehensive-eu-toolbox-safe-and-sustainable-e-commerce>.

⁽²⁾ Council Regulation (EU) 2026/382 of 11 February 2026 amending Regulation (EC) No 1186/2009 as regards the elimination of the threshold-based customs duty relief, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2026/382>.