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Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
(20.10.2026)

The scope of the Regulation (EU) 2019/452¹ on foreign direct investment (FDI) screening encompasses a broad array of transactions that may result in the acquisition, creation or strengthening of control by a non-EU investor over an EU undertaking. This includes, but is not limited to, the acquisition of shareholdings, voting rights or assets in sectors that the EU has identified as sensitive, such as energy, transport, defence, telecommunications and certain areas of health and biotechnology.

While the EU framework provides the overall legal basis, the primary responsibility for assessing individual investments lies with the Member States. In accordance with the relevant provisions of the Regulation, such risk assessments are carried out on the basis of security and public order considerations. Each Member State carries out its own screening procedures and, where applicable, may inform the Commission of cases that have implications for more than one Member State or to programmes or projects of EU interest. In such instances the Commission may – where warranted – issue an opinion to the notifying Member State to be considered in their assessment.

All proceedings in the area of foreign direct investment screening are subject to strict confidentiality requirements. In this context, the Commission is not in a position to confirm, deny, or otherwise comment on whether a specific transaction is being examined, nor can it share any details regarding any ongoing or possible screening procedures.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/452/oj/eng>.