

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-002696/24
to the Commission
Arkadiusz Mularczyk (ECR)
(28 November 2024)**

Subject: Introduction of tariffs on fertilisers from Russia and Belarus to protect EU producers from unfair competition and workers from losing their jobs

The EU, including Poland, is being flooded with cheap imported fertilisers from Russia and Belarus, produced using cheap gas from Russia, with which Polish and other EU fertiliser producers are unable to compete. The halting of fertiliser production has resulted in a lack of demand for sulphur from sulphur mining companies. As a result, Polish businesses, including companies from Grupa Azoty SA, are being forced to reduce their workforce through collective redundancies.

It is therefore unacceptable that Russia, which is an aggressor country carrying out an armed attack on Ukrainian territory, and Belarus, which supports it, are benefiting at the expense of businesses from EU countries, including Poland.

In the light of the foregoing:

1. Is the Commission monitoring the situation as regards the import of fertilisers into the EU from Russia and Belarus?
2. Is the Commission considering the introduction of tariffs on fertilisers in order to protect EU producers from unfair competition from Russia and Belarus?

Submitted: 28.11.2024

**Answer given by Mr Šefčovič on behalf of the European Commission
(6 February 2025)**

The Commission is closely monitoring the situation regarding the import of fertilisers into the EU from Russia and Belarus.

While reflecting on possible new measures, upholding food security remains among EU's primary consideration. Any measure should contribute to preserve a competitive EU fertilisers industry, reduce dependencies while also ensuring that EU farmers have access to ample and diverse sources of fertilisers.

It is worth mentioning that some fertilisers types, albeit not urea or nitrogen fertilisers, are also subject to restrictions under EU sanctions, i.e. a quota on imports of potash fertilisers from Russia ⁽¹⁾ and a ban on Belarus ⁽²⁾.

Where there is unfair competition stemming from imports, the EU uses trade defence instruments to restore fair competition. There are anti-dumping measures in place on imports of mixtures of urea and ammonium nitrate from, *inter alia*, Russia ⁽³⁾ which are currently subject to an expiry review.

There are also measures in place on ammonium nitrate from Russia. Where measures are no longer effective, they may be reviewed.

The trade defence process is normally driven by complaints or requests from industry giving evidence of unfairly dumped or subsidised imports of products or showing that there are changes of a lasting nature which require a change to existing measures. EU industry should contact the complaints office of Directorate-General for Trade for advice.

⁽¹⁾ Article 3i of Council Regulation 833/2014; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02014R0833-20241217>

⁽²⁾ Article 1i of Council Regulation 765/2006; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02006R0765-20241216>

⁽³⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1688 of 8 October 2019; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32019R1688>