

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-002201/25
to the Commission
Laurent Castillo (PPE)
(2 June 2025)**

Subject: Medical devices: potential effects of their inclusion in countermeasures to US customs duties

On 12 March 2025, the United States imposed customs duties of up to 20% on all goods from the European Union.

In response, the Commission initiated a series of countermeasures. The process of adopting these countermeasures was originally scheduled to be completed in mid-April 2025 ⁽¹⁾ with the entry into force of the act imposing them.

Given the United States' decision to postpone the entry into force of its universal country-wide tariffs, the EU decided to suspend, for the same period, the planned countermeasures affecting US exports worth EUR 26 billion. Medical devices were not covered by these countermeasures.

However on 8 May 2025 ⁽²⁾, the Commission launched a public consultation on a list of US imports liable to be covered by countermeasures by the EU, this time including finished medical devices or apparatus for the manufacture of medical devices produced in the EU.

Can the Commission therefore say:

1. What was the reasoning behind this potential U-turn?
2. If medical devices were to be included in the countermeasures to US customs duties, what would be the EU's internal and/or external sources of supply for these products?
3. Will these sources of supply be sufficient and enable the health of European citizens to be safeguarded?

Submitted: 2.6.2025

**Answer given by Mr Šeščovič on behalf of the European Commission
(27 June 2025)**

On 2 April 2025, the United States (US) announced a universal 10% additional tariff on EU exports to the US, to be increased to 20% as of 9 April 2025.

On 9 April 2025, the US suspended the 20% increase until 9 July 2025, keeping the 10% in place. Also, the US imposed several additional sectoral import tariffs: 25% on steel and aluminium, increased to 50% since 4 June 2025, and 25% on cars and car parts.

So far, the EU has adopted countermeasures only against the 25% US tariffs on steel and aluminium ⁽¹⁾, suspended to allow space and time for negotiations ⁽²⁾.

Should the negotiations fail, the EU is ready to protect EU interests, including by reinstating the suspended countermeasures ⁽³⁾ and introducing further measures to rebalance the other additional US tariffs.

To this end a public consultation was launched on the EU response to the US universal tariffs and the US tariffs on cars and car parts ⁽⁴⁾. This includes certain medical devices because the US universal tariffs also apply to EU exports of medical devices to the US.

The Commission is currently conducting an analysis which will also address the availability of alternatives for the medical devices concerned from domestic capacity and from trade partners such as Switzerland or the United Kingdom.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_25_750

² https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/fr/ip_25_1149.

⁽¹⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/778 of 14 April 2025 on commercial rebalancing measures concerning certain products originating in the United States of America and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/886, OJ L, 2025/778, 14.4.2025, http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2025/778/oj.

⁽²⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/786 of 14 April 2025 suspending commercial rebalancing measures concerning certain products originating in the United States imposed by Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/778 and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/2882, OJ L, 2025/786, 14.4.2025, http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2025/786/oj.

⁽³⁾ These are set to automatically enter into force again as of 15 July 2025.

⁽⁴⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1149.

The analysis will be completed with the input received during the public consultation and after further discussion with Member States.
