

GlassFibreEurope
APFE - European Glass Fibre Producers Association (AISBL)

EUROFER
The European Steel Association

EURATEX
VOICE OF THE EUROPEAN APPAREL
AND TEXTILE INDUSTRY

EM EUROHEVAUX
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF METALS

**Euro
Alliances**
Commitment to the European Union

ESTA

**euro
mines**

cepi
EUROPEAN CONFEDERATION OF
PAPER AND PULP INDUSTRIES

EWRI
European Federation of Steel Wire Rope Industries

EUROCORD

EUROCOTON

CIRFS

**Cerame-
unie**
The European Ceramic
Industry Association

EDG EUROPEAN
DOMESTIC
GLASS

TPF

**EUROPEAN
BICYCLE
MANUFACTURERS
ASSOCIATION**

EU ProSun
THE SUSTAINABLE SOLAR ENERGY INITIATIVE

EFIC
European Furniture Industry Confederation

CEC

Confédération européenne de l'industrie de la Chaussure
European Confederation of the Footwear Industry

EiFi

ECGA European Carbon and Graphite Association

**fertilizers
europe**

INTERGRAF
International Graphite Producers Confederation

Brussels, 1st April 2015

Dear President Schulz,

Acting on behalf of companies of more than 20 sectors of the European industry, which collectively represent hundreds of thousands of jobs and a major share of investment in the EU, we would like to share with you our views on the question of how the EU should treat China – as well as other countries such as Vietnam – in future anti-dumping proceedings in light of the discussion which, we understand, is taking place within the European Commission.

There is no doubt that if the EU decided to grant Market Economy Status (MES) – making the antidumping instrument useless against injurious imports from China and Vietnam – such decision would have a severe impact on the whole European industry and its ability to invest in manufacturing, jobs and innovation in Europe. The competitiveness and even survival of many European companies, particularly SMEs, would be seriously threatened with severe adverse consequences for European jobs and growth prospects.

The reason therefore is that both the Chinese and the Vietnamese economies as a whole continue not to meet the EU's five technical criteria for granting MES. And as Trade Commissioner Malmström recently confirmed in an interview with the Wall Street Journal, there is no automaticity in granting MES to China meaning that the full implementation of all technical criteria remains a necessary precondition before any further consideration.

Some say that the EU should consider granting MES, even if China's economy is not market-driven, to make China more amenable to negotiating a bilateral investment agreement with the EU. Exchanging the EU antidumping instrument for potential Chinese goodwill to negotiate an agreement which may never be concluded, and thereby jeopardizing major EU industrial activity and jobs, would seriously undercut the EU's agenda for Growth, Jobs and Innovation.

In this context, it would be extremely useful if not essential firstly to consult with and understand how our major trading partners view the question of granting MES automatically to China in 2016. At this point, there is no indication that any of our major trading partners (the United States, Canada, Japan, Brazil, India and Mexico) intend to grant MES to China automatically next year: in that case, the effect of a unilateral EU decision would be extremely negative for EU industries exposed to potentially devastating import surges as a result of trade deflection from the US and/or other markets.

In light of the strategic importance of the matter, a delegation of representatives of our associations would welcome the opportunity to discuss the matter personally with you in greater depth at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours.

Signatories:

CEC	European Confederation of the Footwear Industry
CEPI	Confederation of European Paper Industries
CERAME-UNIE	The European Ceramic Industry Association
CIRFS	European Man-made Fibres Association
EBMA	European Bicycle Manufacturers Association
ECGA	European Carbon and Graphite Association
EDG	European Domestic Glass
EFIC	European Furniture Industries Confederation
EIFI	European Industrial Fasteners Institute
ESTA	European Steel Tube Association
EU PRO SUN	The Sustainable Solar Energy Initiative
EURATEX	The European Apparel and Textile Confederation
EUROALLIAGES	The European Ferro-alloys Association
EUROCORD	The European Federation of Rope, Twine & Netting Industries
EUROCOTON	European Federation of Cotton and Allied Textiles Industries
EUROFER	The European Steel Association
EUROMETAUX	European Association of Metals
EUROMINES	European Association of Mining Industries, Metal Ores & Industrial Minerals
EWRIS	European Federation of Steel Wire Rope Industries
FERTILIZERS EUROPE	
GLASS FIBRE EUROPE	European Glass Fibre Producers Association
INTERGRAF	European Federation for Print and Digital Communication
TPF	Tube and Pipe Fittings