

**Question for written answer E-014982/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Franck Proust (PPE)

Subject: Trade safeguards

The EU may make use of safeguard mechanisms provided for under the GSP (generalised system of preferences) or in agreements with our partners in order to protect itself against sudden changes in market conditions.

Article 7 of Council Regulation (EC) No 427/2003 of 3 March 2003 on a transitional product-specific safeguard mechanism for imports originating in the People's Republic of China and amending Regulation (EC) No 519/94 on common rules for imports from certain third countries states that 'provisional safeguard measures shall be applied [...] after [...] imports have caused or threatened to cause market disruption to the Community industry'.

Despite the Commission having taken anti-dumping measures in May 2015, imports of Chinese steel rose by 40% in the third quarter of 2015.

1. How does the Commission intend to protect the European steel industry against this major destabilisation of the market?
2. By what percentage must imports rise before the Commission deems there to be 'market disruption to the Community industry'?