

**Priority question for written answer P-000407/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: biodiesel scandal in the EU

Since the beginning of 2023, EU biodiesel producers have been complaining about a sharp increase in biodiesel imports from China. The domestic market is being flooded with large quantities of adulterated fuels from China that are falsely labelled and certified as 'advanced' biofuels, even though they do not meet EU standards.

This has led to drastic market distortion to the detriment of industry in the EU, including German industry. The damage amounts to billions of euros: the corporate profits of EU biofuel producers have plummeted in a way that threatens the very existence of the latter because, as a result of the oversupply from China, the price set for the so-called emission reduction targets has dropped to less than a quarter of what it was. If nothing is done, this will inevitably lead to the collapse of the EU biofuels industry.

The illegal practice of mislabelling biofuels is only made possible by significant weaknesses in the current certification system. Certifiers do not have permission from the Chinese authorities to carry out on-site inspections and certificates are often issued solely on the basis of information provided by the manufacturer.

The German Federal Government points to the competence of the EU and rejects its initiatives to improve the certification system.

The issue was reported to the Commission under Notice C/2023/1574 and the initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding was announced in December 2023.

The Commission is therefore aware of this case.

1. What is the Commission's position on the matter?
2. What short-term steps will the Commission take to protect the EU biofuels industry?

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