

Press release

Brussels, 7 October - European Furniture Industry, represented by EFIC, raises concerns with Commissioner Šefčovič over growing Chinese furniture imports ahead of 8 October visit to Beijing

EFIC represents around 80% of the total turnover of the European Furniture Industries. In the EU, the sector employs 1 million people in about 130.000 enterprises and generates a turnover of over 100 billion Euros, hence an important part of the EU economy.

Ahead of Commissioner Šefčovič's visit to Beijing on 8 October with the Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao and in view of the upcoming Communication on diversification and economic resilience, EFIC raised concerns over growing furniture imports from China, leading to unfair competition for European manufacturers.

China has become the world's largest furniture producer and exporter over the last decade. Furniture imports from China into the EU have increased significantly, reaching EUR 12.5 billion in 2025, meaning 55.6% more furniture imports compared to 2019, when Chinese furniture imports accounted for EUR 8 billion.

This surge in imports is directly resulting in a loss of production volume, revenue and jobs for EU manufacturers whose market share is being displaced by Chinese furniture. Most EU countries are already reporting significant downsizing and plant closures in the sector, job losses, investment postponements and growing pressure on profitability.

At the same time, European companies face increasing barriers when exporting to China, including requirements to comply with standards that are not aligned with internationally recognised ones. As a consequence, furniture exports to China are declining.

EFIC will contribute to the consultation on the upcoming trade instrument that will address cases where a high level of strategic dependencies on a single supplier country creates a risk for the EU's security of supply and thus its economic security, and continues monitoring the above developments.

Nevertheless, the European furniture industry is already experiencing significant market disruption due to the above described import trends that deserves attention in the broader discussion on economic resilience and strategic dependencies, as the European industrial competitiveness and the long-term viability of furniture manufacturing in Europe is at stake.

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