

**PRESS RELEASE**

## **Trade Defence Instruments: a right balance between free trade and protection from unfair practices**

EUROCHAMBRES, the Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry, submitted last Friday specific comments on various questions of the European Commission's Green Paper for public consultation on Europe's Trade Defence Instruments (TDIs).

Arnaldo Abruzzini, EUROCHAMBRES' Secretary General, while welcoming and seeing this consultation as a major opportunity to improve the TDI overall system warned: *"We must remember that the aim of TDIs should be to promote EU competitiveness and growth in today's global economy and not to hide inefficient and uncompetitive enterprises under eventually imposed trade barriers. In this sense, the European Union should continue promoting free trade and the principles of market economy should govern."*

EUROCHAMBRES' main conclusions are:

- The imposition of TDIs should only be advisable if a solid, transparent, inclusive and fair investigation has been conducted, and evidence of unfair trade, dumping and subsidies has been proved;
- TDIs should only be put in place when justified by a Community's interest perspective based on an overall macroeconomic analysis, which is an analysis where all participants will democratically have their voice heard;
- Participation of Small and Medium Enterprises in investigations should be increased;
- The negotiations of international rules of competition within the World Trade Organization (WTO) framework should be the long-term goal of the European Union.

**EUROCHAMBRES' answer to the EC questionnaire on TDIs can be downloaded from [http://www.eurochambres.eu/PDF/pdf\\_trade/EUROCHAMBRES%20Answer%20EC%20Questionnaire%20TDI%20FINAL%20VERSION.pdf](http://www.eurochambres.eu/PDF/pdf_trade/EUROCHAMBRES%20Answer%20EC%20Questionnaire%20TDI%20FINAL%20VERSION.pdf)**

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**EUROCHAMBRES – The Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry represents 46 members, a European network of 2000 regional and local Chambers with over 19 million member enterprises in Europe.**