



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Provisional Anti-Dumping Duties on Chinese Hardwood Plywood Take Effect from Tomorrow

Commission Regulation has exceptional clauses to thwart circumvention attempts by Chinese exporters

Brussels, 10 June 2025 – The Greenwood Consortium welcomes the European Commission's decision to impose provisional anti-dumping duties of up to 62.4% on imports of hardwood plywood products from China, effective from tomorrow. This move is in line with a Commission [Implementing Regulation](#)¹ published today.

As of tomorrow, all hardwood plywood products arriving from China will be subject to these duties at the EU border. Notably, the Commission has been tracking imports of hardwood plywood products from China since December last year, allowing for possible retroactive collection of the new duties, which are likely to be confirmed before the end of the year.

The Commission's investigation found that imports from China were dumped on the EU market, causing significant injury to EU producers. In full the Regulation finds that:

"Most macro-indicators and micro-indicators deteriorated during the period considered. The sales quantity, production quantity and capacity utilisation of the Union industry decreased by respectively – 12 %, – 11 % and – 13 %..." Furthermore, the Commission determined that *"following the decrease in sales of Union producers, stocks increased by 25 %, having a negative effect on their cash-flow"* and that *"industry went from a profit-making situation in 2021 and 2022, to a significantly reduced profit in 2023 ... (– 2 %)"*.

In a significant second move, the European Commission for the first time ever introduced a clause to check on imports of **softwood plywood** from China. The new Regulation states:

"The complainant has pointed to alleged circumvention practices already at the stage of registration of imports of the product concerned. This alleged practice consisted of placing very thin outer layers of softwood veneer on top of the hardwood plywood face veneer. Such practice makes the product fall under customs codes which are not subject to registration, without altering its essential characteristics. Consequently, to minimise the risk of circumvention, the Commission considered it appropriate to monitor such imports. Therefore, separate TARIC codes should be created for imports of such products within CN codes 4412 10 00 and 4412 39 00."

Importantly the Commission adds:

"under Article 13 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1036".

¹ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/1139 of 6 June 2025 imposing a provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of hardwood plywood from the People's Republic of China (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2025/1139/oj)

A Greenwood Consortium spokesperson commented,

"We welcome the Commission's decision to impose provisional anti-dumping duties but, to level the playing field genuinely, we call for definitive duties to be even higher than these provisional levels in the final decision later this year. We also deeply appreciate the Commission's proactive approach to addressing circumvention attempts by Chinese exporters."

The surveillance clause will enable the Commission to gather essential information through EU customs authorities. This in turn will allow those negatively affected to request further action against imports that may be circumventing the duties, using not only trade-defence (anti-circumvention) but also customs control and compliance tools potentially with retroactive consequences for exporters and EU importers involved in such essentially deceptive or fraudulent activities.

This decisive additional action follows a Special Alert² on the *"High Risk of Sanctions Circumvention Regarding the Import of Plywood"* issued by the Commission in March 2025, highlighting the risks of evasion of EU sanctions on Russia and Belarus when importing Chinese-origin birch plywood.

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About the Greenwood Consortium:

Established in 2023, as an ad hoc Consortium by leading EU producers of hardwood plywood from Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Latvia, Italy, Poland, and Spain, Greenwood leverages trade policy instruments to further its commitment to fostering a level playing field that ensures fairness and sustainability in the EU hardwood plywood industry.

² EU sanctions alert: High risk of circumvention - Import of plywood.
(https://finance.ec.europa.eu/publications/eu-sanctions-alert-high-risk-circumvention-import-plywood_en)