

Press Release

Anti-dumping to restore safeguard generated distortions?

Madrid (Spain), 27 November 2019 – EUNIRPA has repeatedly expressed concerns to decision makers, that the safeguard measures, which were supposed to regulate normal trade flows in the steel industry in general, are in fact causing severe disruption to the downstream steel processors and in particular to the independent steel wire rod processors.

With the revised safeguard duties in place since the beginning of October 2019, EUNIRPA is increasingly facing competition on downstream products from third countries. "We have continuously warned decision makers that the safeguard measures are very detrimental to the independent wire rod processing industry because of the risk of delocalisation of downstream industries" said Kris Van Ginderdeuren, President of EUNIRPA. "However, the situation is now deteriorating very rapidly; non-EU producers of wire rod are reacting to the limited quotas by integrating downwards in their own countries. For instance, imports of processed steel such as galvanised wire, fencing products, spring wire and black annealed wire are entering the EU market at dramatically increased quantities and at very low prices."

The situation has become so preoccupying that EUNIRPA members are seriously considering to resort to anti-dumping and other trade protection instruments in order to protect their presence in the EU. A task force has been created to monitor imports and evaluate market developments in this respect