



**Mr. Valdis Dombrovskis**

Executive Vice-President for an Economy that  
Works for the People  
European Commission  
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200  
1049 Brussels  
Belgium

20 December 2021

Dear Executive Vice-President,

The European business community is very concerned about the economically coercive measures that the People's Republic of China took against Lithuania. The measures are negatively impacting Lithuanian companies and their business operations and have recently spilled over along the supply chains of companies from other European countries, thereby calling into question the integrity of the European Single Market. BusinessEurope is against any form of economic coercion as these actions have primarily a negative impact on companies and workers.

We fully support the European Commission's efforts to tackle the current challenges as announced by Vice-President Borrell and yourself on 8 December. All countries need to respect their international commitments, including under the WTO, and appropriate actions need to be taken to address any infringements.

We welcome an open dialogue with China to try to find constructive solutions. Any further escalation will inevitably have a negative impact on broader EU-China relations and must be avoided. At the same time, the current situation makes the case for an EU anti-coercion instrument that can be used as a dissuasion tool if similar situations arise in the future.

The European business community expresses its solidarity with companies suffering the consequences of economic coercion and stands ready to play its role to help achieve a productive outcome.

Yours sincerely,

Markus J. Beyrer