



The Brussels Times

For less than a cup
of coffee a week
SUBSCRIBE

Most Read



Le Chou: Canada Applies
For EU Membership



Shooting at Clémenceau -
some Brussels metro and
tram lines closed,
suspects at large



PM De Wever warns
Belgium's 'road ahead is
no walk in park' in first
speech



Nearly 80,000 unsold
Chinese electric cars
sitting in European ports



Works on railway line
under Brussels Airport to
disrupt train traffic

Nearly 80,000 unsold Chinese electric cars sitting in European ports

Tuesday 4 February 2025

By The Brussels Times with
Belga



Snow covered new cars are parked in a giant parking lot at the International Car Operator (ICO) terminal in Zeebrugge on January 30, 2019, prior to be shipped. ICO is a global leader in the handling roll-on/roll-off from cargo and storing new cars. Credit: Belga / AFP

Over 78,000 Chinese electric cars have accumulated in European port terminals over the past year and a half, according to figures from the ECG (Association of European Vehicle Logistics).

"Comparing Chinese electric vehicle export figures with new vehicle

manufacturers have shipped many unsold cars," pointed out ECG analyst Namrita Chow.

"From the last quarter of 2022 to the first quarter of 2024, they have accumulated 78,234 unsold cars in European port terminals," Chow added.

If lined up end to end, these cars would stretch for 400 kilometres, the distance between Brussels and Frankfurt.

This significant number of unsold vehicles is impacting congestion at the Zeebrugge terminals. Most exports to Belgium consist almost exclusively of electric or hybrid vehicles. In total, one in five vehicles delivered to the Zeebrugge/Antwerp terminals is of Chinese origin.

In the past, Belgian ports have sometimes had to refuse new deliveries due to congestion.

Last year, China exported 5.8 million light vehicles worldwide. The European Union received 700,000 of these, 40% of which arrived at Zeebrugge.

Related News

Tesla sales fall 63% in France

Government agreement will put the brakes on electrifying car fleet, EV federation fears