

**Question for written answer E-002648/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Cristina Maestre (S&D)

Subject: US tariffs on Spanish black olives

In 2017, the United States imposed anti-subsidy and anti-dumping duties ranging from 30 % to 44 % on black olive imports from Spain, measures that the EU challenged before the World Trade Organization (WTO). In November 2021, the WTO confirmed that the US measures were in breach of global trade rules. However, Washington has yet to implement the WTO's recommendations, the deadline for which expired in January 2023.

We welcome the EU's recent request to the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) to authorise retaliatory tariffs of USD 35 million per year. However, the formal objection by the US has pushed the case into arbitration, postponing any resolution that could have been discussed at the DSB meeting scheduled for today, 25 November 2024.

Against this backdrop:

1. What concrete measures is the Commission considering to put an end to this long-standing trade dispute and protect European farmers?
2. Are compensation measures being envisaged for Spain's black olive sector, which has suffered losses estimated at EUR 800 million since the beginning of the conflict?
3. In addition, in the Commission's view, how likely is a successful settlement after Donald Trump's return to the US presidency?

Submitted: 25.11.2024