

**Question for written answer E-000329/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Nikolaos Anadiotis (NI)

Subject: Exemption from the use of unaltered geographical indications in the EU-Mercosur agreement. Implications for the PDO 'Feta'.

Annex 13-B of the EU-Mercosur agreement (Articles 13.3-13.5) provides for transitional exceptions ('grandfathering') for a limited, explicitly defined set of EU geographical indications, which allow the continued use of the unaltered protected name by producers from Mercosur countries. These include the products Feta, Taleggio, Marsala, Grappa, Tokaj(i) and Oporto¹.

However, the PDO 'Feta' is fundamentally different from the other products, as it is a basic food product for mass consumption, inextricably linked to Greek agricultural production and with a high risk of direct consumer deception, while the others are specialised, alcoholic or of limited consumption, with a clearly different market position.

The possibility of marketing, within the EU, products from non-EU countries under the name 'Feta' for seven years creates serious distortions of competition to the detriment of thousands of Greek farmers and undermines the essence of PDO protection (see Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012).

In view of the above, can the Commission say:

1. What objective criteria led to the assimilation of Feta and the above products into the exemption regime?
2. How does the Commission assess the increased risk of misleading consumers, especially in the case of Feta?
3. Does the Commission intend to review or further limit the exemption for Feta, taking into account the disproportionate impact on the Greek agricultural economy?

Submitted: 27.1.2026

¹ https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/eu-trade-relationships-country-and-region/countries-and-regions/mercotur/eu-mercotur-agreement/text-agreement_en