

Question for written answer E-003427/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Barbara Bonte (PfE)

Subject: Level playing field with increased import quotas for Ukrainian poultry meat and eggs

On 29 October 2025, the revised trade arrangement between the EU and Ukraine entered into force under the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), with greater tariff-free quotas for various sensitive agricultural products. The annual quota for poultry meat was increased from 90 000 to 120 000 tons, and for eggs from 6 000 to 18 000 tons.

The additional market access is accompanied by a gradual alignment of Ukraine with EU production standards, including in relation to animal welfare. In its declaration regarding the Council Decision, Belgium stressed that the current differences in animal welfare standards should not continue beyond 2028 and called on the Commission to monitor imports of sensitive products, particularly poultry and eggs, closely and to activate the safeguard clause immediately if necessary.

1. Does the Commission share Belgium's view that the differences between the EU and Ukraine regarding animal welfare standards must be eliminated by 2028, at the latest?
2. How is the Commission actually monitoring Ukraine's compliance with its obligations regarding alignment with EU standards?
3. What objective criteria and thresholds is the Commission applying for activation of the safeguard clause if the increased imports of poultry meat or eggs put pressure on the European market or producers?

Submitted: 1.9.2026