

**Priority question for written answer P-003152/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Friedrich Pürner (NI)

Subject: Legal basis and contractual documentation of the EU-US deal on tariffs and trade

On 27 July 2025, a deal between the Commission, represented by its President Ursula von der Leyen, and Donald Trump, President of the United States of America, was publicly announced. The agreement covers matters including tariffs, strategic industries, energy policy commitments and assurances in the area of defence procurement.

1. On what legal basis was the President of the Commission able to negotiate such a deal on tariffs and trade with the US administration on behalf of the EU and declare it as ‘agreed’, and what internal approval or mandates had been given in this regard (e.g. from the Council or the European Parliament)?
2. In what way is an agreement which has not been ratified in writing and which, according to public statements, is said to have been concluded ‘by handshake’, legally binding?
3. With regard to the contractual arrangements, does the Commission currently have one or more written documents – including all relevant annexes, legal confirmations and signatures – making the agreements with the US legally binding and which can be sent to the questioner, and if not, what is the current status of the negotiations, when can a finalised agreement be expected, and in what way is the European Parliament to be involved in the rest of the process?

Submitted: 30.7.2025