

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000398/25
to the Commission
Daniel Buda (PPE), Dan-Ştefan Motreanu (PPE)
(29 January 2025)**

Subject: Impact of Mercosur on Romanian agriculture and new EUR 1 billion fund

The EU-Mercosur Agreement, signed on 6 December 2024, is still to be approved by the Council of the EU and the European Parliament and ratified by all the Member States. However, the agreement could become operational as from 2026, two years prior to the entry into force of the EU's future multiannual budgetary framework (MFF) for 2028-2034.

At the INTA Committee meeting of 16 January 2025, the Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security, Maroš Šefčovič, revealed that a new fund worth EUR 1 billion was to be established for farmers affected by the Mercosur Agreement.

1. How will the Commission create this new fund under the current MFF without transferring money from existing funds and programmes?
2. The Commissioner also stated there will potentially be small decreases in prices and in production, both of which were estimated at between 0.5 and 2%. These estimates for Europe as a whole provide no information on what may be a disproportionate impact between different regions or Member States. What impact does the Commission expect Mercosur will have on the Romanian agricultural sector and the competitiveness of Romanian farmers?

Submitted: 29.1.2025

**Answer given by Mr Hansen on behalf of the European Commission
(31 March 2025)**

The EU-Mercosur Partnership Agreement is currently subject to legal revision and translation after which the signature and ratification process in the EU and in the Mercosur countries will be launched.

For EU sensitive agricultural sectors, the Agreement sets clear quantitative limits as regards providing preferential access to the EU market. It also contains bilateral safeguards to counter potential negative impacts on a specific EU agricultural sector.

For the unlikely event that the agricultural market situation in the EU is negatively impacted following the implementation of the Agreement, the Commission intends to set up a financial reserve in the context of the next Multi-Annual Financial Framework.

The expected impact of the agreement for the EU only points to very limited price decreases for certain sensitive sectors ⁽¹⁾ according to the Joint Research Centre study on cumulative economic impact of upcoming trade agreements on EU agriculture ⁽²⁾. There is no indication of disproportionate effects at Member States level, including Romania.

⁽¹⁾ A recent assessment on the cumulative impact of upcoming trade agreements projects a reduction of EU beef production and price of 0.9% and 2.4% respectively due to the implementation of the ten FTAs covered by the study.

⁽²⁾ <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC135540>