

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000887/25
to the Commission
Ioan-Rareş Bogdan (PPE)
(3 March 2025)**

Subject: Clarifications on the EU-Mercosur partnership agreement

I welcome the European Commission's willingness to identify new markets for the EU.

The positive feedback received from some manufacturers of machinery and equipment and pharmaceutical, chemical and metallurgical products shows that there is support for the Commission's efforts in this regard.

However, European farmers are up in arms about the Mercosur agreement because they fear that they will lose out massively as a result of competition from agricultural goods that are produced more cheaply and in terms of quality standards. They believe subsidies might be reduced, which would adversely affect small and medium-sized farms.

1. Is there an impact assessment on European production following potential imports of cereals, sugar and milk products?
2. What have Commission experts discussed with the economic sectors that were affected by Mercosur, whether positively or negatively?

Submitted: 3.3.2025

**Answer given by Mr Šefčovič on behalf of the European Commission
(12 August 2025)**

Over the last years, the Commission has conducted various studies to assess the impact of free trade agreements with Mercosur and other trade partners, including on the agricultural sector ⁽¹⁾.

These studies converge to the conclusion that the trade agreement with Mercosur provides significant opportunities for the EU and the Mercosur economy, while presenting some challenges for a number of sensitive EU agricultural products.

Dairy products are among the agricultural commodities for which the EU is expected to benefit from the agreement, whereas sugar counts among sensitive products.

The impacts in terms of additional EU sugar imports are estimated to be limited, given that concessions to Mercosur consist of a small additional quota to Paraguay and the elimination of the in-quota duty for a portion of the volume of an existing World Trade Organisation quota for Brazil. The impact on the EU cereal sector is expected to be very limited.

The Commission has held numerous and regular meetings with specific sectors and sector associations to discuss the potential impact of the agreement, both during the negotiations and after their conclusion. The Commission intends to continue this dialogue in private or public forums with respect of transparency rules.

⁽¹⁾ Sustainability Impact Assessment on the EU-Mercosur Trade Agreement, https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-publishes-final-sia-and-position-paper-eu-mercotur-trade-agreement-2021-03-29_en. Cumulative economic impact of upcoming trade agreements on EU agriculture, <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC135540>.