

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001483/25
to the Commission
Yannis Maniatis (S&D)
(10 April 2025)**

Subject: Support measures for Greek table olives

The recent announcement by the Trump administration imposing 20% tariffs on all European products signals a clear change in US policy, leading to increased protectionism. The consequences of this trade war, which has just begun with this tariff policy, are expected to be negative for all parties involved. Many sectors, including the agri-food sector, are following developments with great concern and uncertainty. They include the Greek table olive sector, which is in imminent danger.

Table olives are Greece's leading agricultural export product to the US, with exports reaching EUR 241 million annually, making the US market the main destination for Greek exports, especially for premium quality products of high value. Any disruption to this flow creates problems for the countryside, growers, their organisations and businesses.

Given that the Commission is expected to react to the US announcements soon:

1. What measures does the Commission intend to adopt to protect susceptible agri-food products, such as table olives, given that the competitiveness of the sector is under threat from non-EU countries with lower tariffs (10% in Egypt, Türkiye, Morocco, etc.)?
2. How does the Commission intend to proceed at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) level with regard to Greek table olives, given that the EU has already successfully challenged the US regarding Spanish ripe olives, justifying the demands of Spanish producers and exporters?

Submitted: 10.4.2025

**Answer given by Mr Šefčovič on behalf of the European Commission
(3 June 2025)**

On 2 April 2025 the United States (US) announced a 10% across-the-board additional tariff on most EU exports to the US as of 5 April, including on table olives from Greece, to be increased to 20% as of 9 April.

On 9 April 2025, the US, however, suspended the 20% additional tariff for a 90-day period, while keeping an additional 10% tariff in place. These additional 10% US tariffs also apply to US imports from Egypt, Türkiye, Morocco and other countries.

The EU adopted countermeasures against the US tariffs on steel and aluminium ⁽¹⁾ but suspended those for 90 days ⁽²⁾ to allow sufficient space and time for negotiations towards a mutually satisfactory solution. Should these negotiations not be successful, the adopted countermeasures can automatically enter into force again.

Also, the EU continues preparatory work for possible further proportionate countermeasures in response to other additional US import tariffs.

The EU has at its disposal several instruments to address impacts on EU agricultural producers from situations of market disturbance.

The EU has successfully challenged at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) the countervailing duties imposed by the US on imports of ripe olives from Spain.

This is in the context of trade defence procedures. The US has not imposed any anti-dumping or countervailing duties on table olives from Greece and no specific challenge at the WTO against US tariffs on table olives from Greece is therefore envisaged at this stage.

⁽¹⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/778 of 14 April 2025 on commercial rebalancing measures concerning certain products originating in the United States of America and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/886, OJ L, 2025/778, 14.4.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2025/778/oj.

⁽²⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/786 of 14 April 2025 suspending commercial rebalancing measures concerning certain products originating in the United States imposed by Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/778 and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/2882, OJ L, 2025/786, 14.4.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2025/786/oj.