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Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(8.9.2025)

In 2024, Ukrainian imports into the EU took place under the Autonomous Trade Measures (ATMs) for Ukraine¹. Article 4(7) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1392 (the ATM Regulation) provided for an emergency brake for several products, including poultry, that could be automatically triggered if import volumes reached the average yearly imports between 1 July 2021 and 31 December 2023. For poultry, this volume amounted to 137 042,80 tonnes. In 2024, EU imports of poultry from Ukraine amounted to 136 825 tonnes, thus remaining below the threshold². The cited figure of 373 800 tonnes relates to Ukraine's global poultry exports.

Imports of agricultural products from any third country into the EU are subject to the Union's rules on sanitary and phytosanitary standards (SPS). The referenced Directives do not include equivalency for imports, meaning that imported poultry products are not bound by animal welfare standards relating to the conditions under which poultry are kept on farms. Article 44 of Regulation (EU) 2017/625³ stipulates that the competent national authorities are responsible for carrying out official controls on goods introduced into the EU.

As part of the review of the EU-Ukraine Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA)⁴, Ukraine has committed to align its legislation to a number of EU agri-food standards by 31 December 2028. These encompass, among others, relevant EU legal acts on animal welfare, including Directives 2007/43/EC⁵ and 98/58/EC⁶. If the EU assesses the alignment as unsatisfactory, it may suspend all or some of the preferences granted in this review.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2024/1392 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 on temporary trade-liberalisation measures supplementing trade concessions applicable to Ukrainian products under the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part, OJ L, 2024/1392.

² Eurostat.

³ Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2017 on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products, OJ L 95, 7.4.2017.

⁴ Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Association Committee in Trade Configuration established by the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part, as regards reduction and elimination of customs duties. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025PC0450&qid=1753807047060>.

⁵ Council Directive 2007/43/EC of 28 June 2007 laying down minimum rules for the protection of chickens kept for meat production, OJ L 182, 12.7.2007.

⁶ Council Directive 98/58/EC of 20 July 1998 concerning the protection of animals kept for farming purposes, OJ L 221, 8.8.1998.