

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003447/25
to the Commission
Daniel Buda (PPE)
(5 September 2025)**

Subject: Increase in beef exports from Ukraine and the effects on EU farmers

In July 2025, exports of live weight cattle from Ukraine had increased by 62% over June 2025 and by 14% over July 2024, to stand at around 1 980 tonnes, generating USD 4.19 million in revenue ⁽¹⁾. Exports of frozen beef totalled 1 680 tonnes, at a revenue of about USD 7.56 million. Imports of fresh and refrigerated meat have risen even more sharply: by around 70 times the volume the previous month and 50 times that the previous year.

The rapid increase in Ukrainian exports comes in a context of weak global supply, and this has affected prices and the competitiveness of Romanian and other European farmers.

In view of this significant increase in exports of live cattle and beef, as well as the potential adverse impact on EU farmers' prices and competitiveness:

1. What measures is the Commission considering to protect and strengthen the position of European farmers on the internal market and export market, given the surge in Ukrainian exports?
2. Are temporary volume management mechanisms being introduced to mitigate the impact on the activities and income of farmers in Member States, and especially those bordering Ukraine?

Submitted: 5.9.2025

**Answer given by Mr Hansen on behalf of the European Commission
(14 October 2025)**

The EU is a net beef exporter and the trade balance for beef and live animals has been positive for many years, including at the beginning of 2025. EU bovine imports amounted in 2024 to a value of EUR 2.6 billion, whereas EU exports were 4.9 billion, resulting in a positive balance of over EUR 2.2. billion. Decreasing EU exports are mainly due to a shortage of bovine animals and related decline in production. Prices continue to be sustained by robust internal and external demand. EU producer prices remain at historical high levels.

According to European statistics on international trade in goods ⁽¹⁾, the EU has neither imported live bovine animals nor beef meat from Ukraine in 2025. In the context of the review of the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) with Ukraine ⁽²⁾ which is currently under discussion in the Council, it is not planned to increase existing tariff rate quotas for beef meat.

Generally speaking, Ukrainian exports of live bovine animals and beef products are destined to other markets than the EU.

¹ <https://agrointel.ro/336255/afacerile-fermierilor-romani-in-pericol-ucraina-isi-majoreaza-exporturile-de-carne-de-vita>

⁽¹⁾ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/bookmark/f48a373f-a225-421b-b82b-4ec363f8ed42?lang=en&createdAt=2025-09-23T13:36:07Z>.

⁽²⁾ COM (2025) 450 final, 28.07.2025.