

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004084/25
to the Commission
Benoit Cassart (Renew)
(16 October 2025)**

Subject: EU-Mexico trade agreement

The modernised EU-Mexico trade agreement, which replaces the original agreement from 2000, is in the final stage of negotiation, with an agreement on the trade-related components having been concluded at the beginning of 2025.

Mexico wants to reduce its dependence on the US. The agreement boosts certain European products' access to the Mexican market. In return, the EU granted certain Mexican products such as orange juice, tuna, honey and some meat products better access to the European markets, provided that they comply with European standards.

1. Has the Commission assessed the cumulative effect of the free trade agreements, including the increased quotas for reduced tariffs on beef in the modernised EU-Mexico agreement?
2. If so, can it confirm whether this cumulative effect makes it more difficult for European producers to compete and impacts the European meat market?

Submitted: 16.10.2025

**Answer given by Mr Šefčovič on behalf of the European Commission
(1 December 2025)**

In February 2024, the Commission's Joint Research Centre published the third version ⁽¹⁾ of a study covering the expected cumulative effects of ten trade agreements on the EU agri-food sector by 2032, as well as a simulation of the effects of the United Kingdom's trade policy on the EU agri-food sector.

One of the agreements covered by the study was the modernised agreement with Mexico. The study includes trade results for the agricultural sector as a whole, as well as sectoral impacts in terms of bilateral trade, production, demand and price developments.

The study confirms that the EU trade agenda has the potential to benefit the EU agri-food sector. As a result of the agreement, EU agri-food exports to Mexico are expected to increase by EUR 350 million (+26%), while imports by EUR 90 million (+11%).

It is also important to note that the study was based on the agriculture concessions granted to Mexico at the time of the agreement in principle in 2018.

However, in the final deal in January 2025 the EU withdrew some of its agricultural concessions to Mexico on beef, poultry and ethanol.

Specifically on meat, the EU reduced the tariff rate quotas (TRQ) volumes granted to Mexico compared to the deal concluded in 2018 by 50% for beef (namely TRQ of 5 000 tonnes for beef and 5 000 tonnes for beef offals) and by one third (33%) for poultry (namely TRQ of 6 667 tonnes).

Those volumes, which are minimal compared to the size of the EU market, represent some 0.15% of EU consumption for beef and 0.05% of EU consumption for poultry.

⁽¹⁾ <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC135540>.