

(English version)

Question for written answer E-004178/25
to the Commission
Mariusz Kamiński (ECR)
(23 October 2025)

Subject: Controversial EU-Mercosur agreement — farmers' protests, growing concerns and opposition to Commission's misguided policy

During the plenary session of 8 October 2025, Parliament adopted a report on EU political strategy on Latin America, including the negotiated EU-Mercosur partnership agreement. I voted in favour of removing the paragraph supporting the conclusion of this agreement, as did the majority of MEPs — to me, this is a clear political signal to the Commission ⁽¹⁾.

In my opinion, the Commission was mistaken in concluding negotiations and publishing the text of the agreement. For such a comprehensive trade agreement, in which the EU's partner is a big bloc of countries, it is essential to ensure that environmental, economic and social concerns have been adequately addressed, and all Member States' interests duly protected.

1. What is the Commission's response to the accusation that agricultural production in Brazil — fuelled by Russian fertilisers and German pesticides — threatens the competitiveness of European agricultural production and runs counter to the EU's declared geopolitical objectives in relation to food security, environmental protection and weakening Russia's military and economic potential?
2. What is the Commission's response to the accusation that only certain western European countries that are leaders in exporting cars and machinery to Mercosur will benefit from the agreement, while central and eastern European countries will largely shoulder the costs of the agreement that arise from opening EU agricultural markets to imports from Mercosur?
3. Does the Commission have any reliable estimation of the costs and benefits of the economic, social and environmental impact that implementing this agreement will have on individual Member States?

Submitted: 23.10.2025

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

The EU-Mercosur agreement represents a strategic opportunity to enhance trade and cooperation with Latin America. It supports the EU's geopolitical objectives, including diversification, and promotes sustainable agricultural practices globally.

The agreement includes commitments to environmental standards, sustainable practices and ceasing deforestation by 2030. All imports must comply with EU sanitary and phytosanitary standards and regulations.

The Vision for Agriculture ⁽¹⁾ includes several accompanying initiatives, including pursuing a stronger alignment of production standards for imported products and more stringent controls on imports.

The agreement has the potential of benefiting Member States, including for agri-food exports. Finally, through carefully calibrated tariff quotas and phased market openings, it protects European farmers, providing benefits for all Member States.

The Commission's Economic analysis of the negotiated outcome ⁽²⁾ projects an increase in the EU gross domestic product of EUR 77.6 billion by 2040, indicating widespread economic benefits, with Mercosur gradually eliminating tariffs on 91% of EU imports.

The Commission will monitor implementation to ensure that the agreement does not generate disturbances on the EU market and has mechanisms to address adverse impacts, including bilateral safeguards in case of need.

The Commission is also introducing the new Unity Safety Net for crisis measures, with a total budget of EUR 6.3 billion — effectively doubling the current agricultural reserve. This reinforced support will help safeguard EU farmers in times of market disturbances amid growing geopolitical uncertainties.

¹ Paragraph 29, which was only supported by 259 MEPs, was removed https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/A-10-2025-0171_EN.html.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52025DC0075>.

⁽²⁾ Economic analysis of the negotiated outcome of the EU-Mercosur partnership agreement (EMPA), Publications Office of the EU; <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/6f1a741f-677e-11f0-bf4e-01aa75ed71a1>.