

EN
E-000185/2026
Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
(26.2.2026)

The Commission fully respects the principle of sincere cooperation among the EU institutions and, in particular, the role of the European Parliament in the conclusion process of trade agreements.

Through its proposals for Council decisions on the signing and conclusion, adopted on 3 September 2025¹, the Commission upheld its political commitment to propose to the Council that the provisional application of the EU–Mercosur Interim Trade Agreement (ITA) occurs only once the European Parliament has been given the opportunity to express its consent.

On 9 January 2026, the Council adopted a decision on signing and provisional application of the ITA². According to that decision, the ITA shall be provisionally applied when one or more signatory Mercosur states have finalised their respective internal procedures and have notified the EU of the completion of their respective internal procedures necessary for the provisional application of the ITA and confirm their agreement to apply the ITA on a provisional basis. The step of notification of provisional application by the EU to the relevant signatory Mercosur states would not take place before that point in time.

To date, no exchange of notifications has occurred, as the internal procedures necessary for the provisional application and/or ratification procedures in the Mercosur countries have just started.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025PC0339&qid=1771342152814>.

² <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-12417-2025-REV-1/en/pdf>.