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Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
(22.4.2026)

The Trade Agreement between the EU and Colombia, Ecuador and Peru¹ entered into force on 1 November 2024. The Commission agrees with the Honourable Member that it would now be appropriate to initiate a reflection on how the Agreement fits with the current geopolitical and economic environment.

Regarding the transformation into a modern strategic partnership, the Commission committed in the 2022 Joint Communication ‘A New Agenda for EU-Latin America and Caribbean Relations’² to discuss the possible upgrade of the Agreement's provisions on sustainable development. To this end, the EU and the Andean countries have established a Working Group under the relevant Committee where discussions are still ongoing.

A broader modernisation of the agreement could be considered. The Commission is exploring with various partners to extend the trade and economic cooperation to new fields.

Any formal request for a negotiating mandate to the Council would require further scoping to ensure alignment with the EU’s strategic priorities.

The conclusions of any deliberations in this regard will be fully reported to the European Parliament.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/EN/legal-content/summary/eu-trade-agreement-with-colombia-peru-and-ecuador.html>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52023JC0017>.