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E-001824/2026

Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
(22.6.2026)

The Import Control Task Force¹ does not replace official controls performed by Member States or create parallel structures, but builds on existing expert and working groups within the framework of import controls (namely, groups on veterinary import controls, food and feed of non-animal origin, plant health, e-commerce and the Official Controls Regulation²), bringing them together in a coordinated and strategic way. Its added value lies in improving harmonised implementation in the EU, identifying gaps or inconsistencies and proposing joint actions where an EU-level approach is best.

The Unity safety net³, amounting to EUR 6.3 billion over the 2028-2034 period, will serve as a dedicated tool within the EU Facility to address market disturbances and ensure agricultural market stability. It replaces the current agricultural reserve, doubling its budget and supporting a stronger crisis response for farmers. The funding is integrated into the next Multiannual Financial Framework, without redeploying resources from other EU priorities.

The Commission has already conducted an economic analysis of the negotiated outcome of the EU-Mercosur Partnership Agreement⁴, published in June 2025. This assesses the agreement's projected impacts on key areas, including gross domestic product, trade flows, employment and sectoral effects, with particular attention to sensitive sectors such as agriculture. No further comprehensive macroeconomic assessment is planned specifically for the phase of the EU-Mercosur Interim Trade Agreement's provisional application. The existing analysis, alongside ongoing monitoring, will inform stakeholders.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/api/files/document/print/en/ip_26_207/IP_26_207_EN.pdf.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32017R0625>.

³ https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/common-agricultural-policy/cap-post-2027-next-eu-budget_en.

⁴ <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/6f1a741f-677e-11f0-bf4e-01aa75ed71a1>.