

EN
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Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
(29.10.2026)

Pursuant to the reviewed Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA)¹, Ukraine has committed to align its legislation with certain EU production standards by the end of 2028. These include EU rules on animal welfare. Ukraine shall report to the Commission every year on its progress in meeting these commitments.

Ukraine is also in the process of aligning its national legislation to the EU *acquis*, including on animal welfare as part of the accession negotiations. However, further work is needed, including on requirements for official controls, plant protection products, contaminants and genetically modified organisms. In this framework, the Commission publishes an annual country report assessing Ukraine's² progress towards alignment with the EU *acquis*.

Pursuant to the reviewed DCFTA, the EU may take safeguard measures, if serious economic, societal or environmental difficulties of a sectoral or regional nature liable to persist have arisen or threaten to arise in either Party, including in one or several Member States, as a result of imports of a product covered by the additional reduction of customs duties under the reviewed DCFTA.

The Commission closely monitors trade flows between the EU and Ukraine and the evolution of EU agricultural markets, in particular EU production and price trends, among other indicators. There is currently no evidence that the conditions for applying a safeguard measure are met, confirming that the revised quota levels under the reviewed DCFTA are fair and balanced.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:22025D2130>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52025SC0759>.