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Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
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The procedure for the adoption of the EU-Mercosur agreement, including voting procedure at the Council, will depend on the content of the final agreement, which in turn determines its legal basis and nature.

After a final political agreement has been reached between the EU and Mercosur in December 2024, the Commission will transmit a proposal to the European Parliament and the Council for signature and conclusion of the agreement. In that context, the Commission will present its proposal for the legal basis and architecture of the deal in line with the Treaties.

According to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFUE), the following procedures for the adoption have been used in the past for similar multilateral agreements: i) a 'mixed agreement' that requires the approval by the EU (i.e. Parliament and Council) and all its Member States on the whole agreement before it can fully enter into force, with the possibility for provisional application of parts that are of EU exclusive competence; and ii) a single political package of two legally separated agreements that are ideally to be signed in parallel: one 'mixed' framework agreement, requiring the approval by the EU and all its Member States before it can fully enter into force, and an interim trade agreement covering provisions falling under the exclusive competence of the EU, which would only require ratification on the part of the EU. In this respect, it is worth noting that in line with the principles of the TFUE and namely its Articles 207 and 218, with regard to trade agreements, the Council shall act by a qualified majority throughout the procedure.