

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-001429/26
to the Commission
Marko Vešligaj (S&D)
(8 April 2026)**

Subject: EU — Mercosur agreement

Given that the EU has notified the Mercosur countries of the instrument of provisional application for the EU-Mercosur interim Trade Agreement and that this Agreement is expected to apply from 1 May 2026, could the Commission clarify the following:

1. How does the Commission intend to ensure that sensitive sectors of the EU agricultural economy are adequately protected and what concrete measures, in addition to the agreed safeguard mechanisms, will be implemented to mitigate risks for EU farmers?
2. How will the Commission monitor and assess the effectiveness of these protective measures, in particular to ensure that small and medium-sized farms are not disproportionately affected by increased imports from Mercosur countries?
3. In her 2023 State of the Union address, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced that approximately EUR 45 billion in agricultural funds within the 2028-2034 common agricultural policy (CAP) budget could be mobilised by Member States to support farmers facing increased competition. Given that the provisional application of the Agreement starts on 1 May 2026, what financial resources or instruments does the Commission plan to make available to Member States to support farmers in the interim period before the 2028-2034 CAP financial envelope comes into effect?

Submitted: 8.4.2026

**Answer given by Mr Šeščovič on behalf of the European Commission
(11 May 2026)**

The EU-Mercosur Interim Trade Agreement (ITA) ⁽¹⁾ will be provisionally applied by the EU and the signatory Mercosur states as of 1 May 2026; it will provide trade opportunities, while protecting the EU sensitive agricultural sectors.

The ITA includes carefully calibrated quotas and robust safeguard clauses. These ensure that sensitive sectors, such as beef, are shielded from injurious import surges.

Moreover, the Commission will monitor implementation to ensure that the agreement does not generate disturbances on the EU market.

Already under the current Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027, the funds of the agricultural reserve can be mobilised to counter the unlikely event of adverse impacts on EU farmers and agricultural markets because of the Agreement.

For the next Multiannual Financial Framework (2028-2034), the Commission has proposed the establishment of a new EUR 6.3 billion Unity Safety Net for crisis measures — effectively doubling the agricultural reserve. This reinforced support will help safeguard EU farmers in times of market disturbances amid growing geopolitical uncertainties.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A22026A00184&qid=1774426176108>.