

**Question for written answer E-002829/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: EU-Mercosur agreement

European farmers, consumers and environmental organisations, including climate organisations, are concerned about the finalisation of the EU-Mercosur agreement for which negotiations have been ongoing since 2000. In the European Parliament, since a political agreement was reached in 2019, we have been protesting against the risks that the lack of adequate safeguards in the agreement may create: unfair competition that can destroy European agriculture, which has to comply with EU standards; the threat to EU food security and quality, and thus to the health of Europeans; the risk of deforestation in Mercosur countries, for pasture and crops among other things, which contributes to fires in the Amazon rainforest, the so-called ‘lungs of the world’ and an important reservoir of biodiversity, and the risk of increased CO₂ emissions from maritime and air transport.

1. How does the agreement secure a level playing field between EU and Mercosur farmers, particularly in view of the costs and constraints faced by EU farmers and the quality of food entering the EU market?
2. How does the agreement secure comparable environmental requirements, taking into account CO₂ emissions, for products from Mercosur countries entering the EU, and how does it prevent deforestation in Mercosur countries and an increase in emissions from the transport of goods from Mercosur countries to the EU?
3. Given that the agreement goes well beyond trade issues, which are inseparable from political issues, does the Commission envisage a full ratification procedure by the Member States?

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