

**Question for written answer E-002289/2024/rev.1  
to the Commission**  
Rule 144  
**Piotr Müller (ECR)**

**Subject:** Protecting food producers in the European Union and negotiations with Mercosur countries

The trade agreement being negotiated between the European Union and the Mercosur countries raises many questions and concerns, especially among European food producers. In view of the clear risk that this agreement could cause a wave of inequalities in agriculture, I would like to request a response on a number of key issues:

1. What safeguard mechanisms does the Commission envisage to protect the interests of European farmers?
2. Given the requirements of the Green Deal and the numerous restrictions imposed on European food producers, questions are being raised about the balance of the rules. Does the draft agreement impose the same restrictive standards – concerning environmental protection, greenhouse gas emissions, the use of fertilisers and forest protection – on Mercosur food producers?
3. If the agreement with Mercosur provides for different safety standards and permissible technologies for food production or fertilisers to the standards applied in the EU, why are double standards being applied, putting EU consumers' health at risk?

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