Question for written answer E-000011/2025 to the Commission Rule 144 Céline Imart (PPE)

Subject: Using a health certificate to establish proof of origin for authorising poultry

import quotas in the EU

The Commission is revising the Implementing Regulation on the proof of origin for certain tariff quotas in the poultry sector. The text, which is being discussed in the Committee for the Common Organisation of Agricultural Markets, would allow exporters to choose between a health certificate and a certificate of origin for their imports to be authorised under the tariff quotas granted to third countries, Brazil in particular.

For a number of years, the certificate of origin, issued in particular by the Brazilian authorities, has helped Brazilian multinationals acquire a concentration of the EU import quotas. These companies have set up, via their EU subsidiaries, a parallel quota management system based in Brazil to control all quotas, thereby circumventing EU rules which limit the share of quotas for a single entity to 15%. As a result, Brazilian companies control almost the entire EU chicken fillet market. This situation could be remedied by adopting solely the health certificate.

Does the Commission intend to restrict proof of origin to only health certificates for all import quotas, so as to safeguard fair competition and regain control over the management of import quotas?

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