

**Question for written answer E-003739/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Free trade agreement negotiations with Mercosur

Following the recent momentum gained in the trade negotiations with the Latin American bloc Mercosur, European producers are deeply concerned about the impact that an agreement with these countries could have on the EU agricultural market – particularly when it comes to beef production – as their exports do not comply with the stringent environmental and food safety standards applied to European producers.

Can the Commission guarantee that imports arriving in the EU will meet our stringent production standards, for example the ban on the use of growth promoters? Will it negotiate equivalent health and environmental conditions with the countries in question?