Question for written answer E-005529/2017 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: CETA - Tariff quotas for cheese and other sensitive sectors

The Comprehensive Trade and Economic Agreement between the EU and Canada (CETA) will enter into force on 21 September 2017. Under the agricultural section of the agreement, the Union was granted a zero-tariff quota of 18 500 tons of cheese by Canada.

On 1 August, the Canadian government published the rules for the implementation of this quota over five years: 50% of the quota will be imported by Canadian cheese producers and 50% by Canadian distributors. At the same time, Canada has provided for an investment plan for the modernisation of the sector. These rules could allow Canada not to fully utilize the quota provided for and to reduce it.

Can the Commission indicate:

- 1. what guarantees were obtained from Canada regarding real utilization of the European cheese quota?
- 2. the detailed implementing rules adopted by the Union for the zero-tariff quota for beef granted to Canada?
- 3. what assistance and support measures it intends to put in place for sensitive sectors should they encounter difficulties during the implementation of CETA?

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