

**Question for written answer E-006814/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: PGIs: European Union - Mercosur

Designations of origin provide proof of the product's quality. There are 17 protected geographical indications (PGIs) for meat in Spain alone. After 20 years of negotiations, the trade agreement between the European Union and Mercosur is now much nearer to becoming a reality.

Once this trade agreement has been adopted, countries like Argentina will be able to increase their meat exports, which will change how the EU meat market operates at present.

1. Does the European Union have an impact plan to protect Council Regulation (EC) No 510/2006 and keep designations of origin for meat after the trade agreement with Mercosur enters into force?

According to figures from the Commission, at least 33 000 farmers and cattle breeders in the EU could find themselves out of work.

2. How will a trade agreement affect the EU's small family farms, especially in Spain where thousands of farms have been forced out of business in recent years by the EU's trade liberalisation policies?