

**Question for written answer E-002415/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Inma Rodríguez-Piñero (S&D)

Subject: Review of EU trade agreements to include new sensitive products

The new generation of trade agreements negotiated by the EU are conceived as 'living agreements', which do not seek to confirm the *status quo*, but establish commitments on the basis of a continued dialogue between the authorities and between the authorities and the stakeholders. This is true of the agreements signed with South Korea, Canada and Japan.

Thus, review clauses may possibly be used in future trade agreements for the temporary protection or exclusion of sensitive products, an issue which is of great importance for agriculture in the European Mediterranean region. In such cases, the mechanisms provided for in safeguard clauses may appear to be insufficient or ineffective in the eyes of producers who have traditionally relied on the crop which forms the mainstay in their region, but who are subject to growing additional competition resulting from trade liberalisation and the creation of new late varieties in the southern hemisphere, which create strong additional competition owing to an overlap in the seasons not provided for in the agreements.

Can the Commission say whether it considers the introduction of review clauses for the consideration of new sensitive products in the trade agreements signed by the EU to be appropriate?