Question for written answer P-003590/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Hannu Takkula (ALDE)

Subject: Offer relating to agriculture in Mercosur free trade negotiations

The Commission has continued its free trade negotiations with Mercosur, and it is to be hoped that we can finally look forward to an agreement that will be beneficial to both parties. However, there are some concerns about this agreement, particularly from the point of view of EU agriculture.

At present, the offer made by the EU in the negotiations possesses features which can be considered potentially damaging to agricultural producers in the EU. These possible effects should be assessed particularly carefully because of the crisis in EU farming. Moreover, the impact of the agreement on the continuation of the TTIP negotiations should be precisely analysed.

Has the Commission updated its impact assessment with reference to these negotiations after a long interval? How does the Commission justify the offer it has made at this time regarding tariffs on farm products?

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