



2019/0132(NLE)

6.11.2019

OPINION

of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

for the Committee on International Trade

on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Union and Ukraine amending the trade preferences for poultry meat and poultry meat preparations provided for by the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part
(10720/2019 – C9-0105/2019 – 2019/0132(NLE))

Rapporteur for opinion: Zbigniew Kuźmiuk

PA_Leg_Consent

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

The rapporteur supports the entry into force as soon as possible of the agreement with Ukraine in the form of an exchange of letters amending the trade preferences for poultry meat and poultry meat preparations provided for by the Association Agreement between the EU and Ukraine. This is necessary to limit the possibility of a further increase in imports from Ukraine of the so-called custom chicken cuts.

From mid-2016, a new type of poultry cut started to be imported from Ukraine to the Union in increasing quantities. This novel cut consists of a traditional breast cap with the humerus bones of the wings attached, the latter making up for a very small part of the total weight of the cut. After minimal transformation, this cut can be marketed in the Union as poultry breast. The exponential increase in duty free imports from around 3700 tonnes in 2016 to more than 55 000 tonnes in 2018 of this particular poultry cut, which was neither existent nor foreseeable during the negotiations of the Association Agreement, has raised great concern. It undermines the protection provided for poultry breast under the Association Agreement and has the potential to disrupt the sensitive balance in the poultry meat market of the EU.

If the agreement enters into force, the rapporteur proposes to split the tariff rate quotas allocated to Ukraine into individual tariff lines and to monthly periods.

The European Commission should consider proposing to Ukraine a modification of the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA) to introduce bilateral safeguard measures for trade in agricultural commodities, which would allow for temporary suspension or reduction of tariff preferences in the event of disruption in sensitive sectors of the agricultural market caused by products imported under preferential terms.

The rapporteur calls on the Commission to ensure the enforcement of the full commitment from our partners. In the case of Ukraine, this applies to, among others sanitary and phytosanitary issues, for which Ukraine has undertaken under the DCFTA to bring its legislation into line with Union legislation and to comply with animal welfare requirements.

The negotiated solution consists of increasing the existing quota for poultry meat and poultry meat products by an additional 50 000 tonnes, including the 'other cuts' tariff lines CN codes 0207 1370 and 0207 1470 within the scope of the existing tariff rate quota and reinstating the Most Favoured Nation duty rate of 100.8 EUR/100 kg/net for imports under the two 'other cuts' tariff lines concerned in excess of the volume of the tariff rate quota.

The rapporteur proposes that the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development recommends giving consent to this Agreement, as it aims to protect the interests of Union stakeholders and to stop the potential unlimited duty free poultry imports which could undermine the conditions under which traditional poultry breast cuts may be imported into the Union under the DCFTA, in particular the quantitative restrictions in the form of a tariff rate quota.

The Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development calls on the Committee on International Trade, as the committee responsible, to recommend approval of the draft

Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Union and Ukraine amending the trade preferences for poultry meat and poultry meat preparations provided for by the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part.

PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Title	Conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Union and Ukraine amending the trade preferences for poultry meat and poultry meat preparations provided for by the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part						
References	10720/2019 – C9-0105/2019 – 2019/0132(NLE)						
Committee responsible	INTA						
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	AGRI 16.9.2019						
Rapporteur Date appointed	Zbigniew Kuźmiuk 4.9.2019						
Date adopted	5.11.2019						
Result of final vote	<table> <tr> <td>+: </td><td>34</td></tr> <tr> <td>–: </td><td>9</td></tr> <tr> <td>0: </td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	+:	34	–:	9	0:	2
+:	34						
–:	9						
0:	2						
Members present for the final vote	Mazaly Aguilar, Clara Aguilera, Álvaro Amaro, Attila Ara-Kovács, Carmen Avram, Adrian-dragoș Benea, Benoît Biteau, Daniel Buda, Isabel Carvalhais, Asger Christensen, Dacian Ciolos, Ivan David, Paolo De Castro, Jérémy Decerle, Herbert Dorfmann, Luke Ming Flanagan, Dino Giarrusso, Francisco Guerreiro, Martin Häusling, Martin Hlaváček, Krzysztof Jurgiel, Jarosław Kalinowski, Elsi Katainen, Gilles Lebreton, Norbert Lins, Mairead McGuinness, Marlene Mortler, Maria Noichl, Juozas Olekas, Pina Picierno, Sheila Ritchie, Bronis Ropė, Anne Sander, Annie Schreijer-Pierik, Veronika Vrecionová, Sarah Wiener, Juan Ignacio Zoido Álvarez						
Substitutes present for the final vote	Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Franc Bogovič, Anja Hazekamp, Ivo Hristov, Peter Jahr, Petros Kokkalis, Zbigniew Kuźmiuk, Michal Wiezik						

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

34	+
ECR	Mazaly Aguilar, Krzysztof Jurgiel, Zbigniew Kuźmiuk, Veronika Vrecionová
NI	Dino Giarrusso
PPE	Álvaro Amaro, Franc Bogovič, Daniel Buda, Herbert Dorfmann, Peter Jahr, Jarosław Kalinowski, Norbert Lins, Mairead McGuinness, Marlene Mortler, Anne Sander, Annie Schreijer-Pierik, Michal Wiezik, Juan Ignacio Zoido Álvarez
Renew	Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Asger Christensen, Dacian Cioloș, Jérémy Decerle, Martin Hlaváček, Elsi Katainen, Sheila Ritchie
S&D	Clara Aguilera, Attila Ara-Kovács, Carmen Avram, Adrian-dragoș Benea, Isabel Carvalhais, Paolo De Castro, Ivo Hristov, Juozas Olekas, Pina Picierno

9	-
GUE/NGL	Luke Ming Flanagan, Anja Hazekamp, Petros Kokkalis
ID	Ivan David, Gilles Lebreton
Verts/ALE	Benoît Biteau, Francisco Guerreiro, Martin Häusling, Sarah Wiener

2	0
S&D	Maria Noichl
Verts/ALE	Bronis Ropė

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention