

WRITTEN QUESTION E-5257/07
by Bogdan Golik (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: EU trade policy

In the light of the problems dogging agricultural trade with Russia, which no longer affect only Poland but the whole EU, would it not be appropriate to entrust the Commission with responsibility for shaping all aspects of trade policy, i.e. exports as well as imports?

The present system of different rules for each EU Member State on access to third countries' markets results in unequal export conditions and the discriminatory treatment of some Member States. The allocation of responsibilities with regard to imports and exports seems contrary to the principles of the single market and the provisions of Article 133 of the EC Treaty, according to which the common trade policy is based on uniform principles, including in regard to export policy. Current Commission procedures also need to be improved to ensure that any problems that arise can be resolved more quickly, and, in urgent matters, immediately.