

**Question for written answer E-000799/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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**Subject:** Commission approval for bilateral negotiations between Member States and Russia on the pork embargo

We were amazed to learn that the Commission has concluded an agreement with Russia on the embargo on EU pork exports to Russia, and that the agreement centres around the Commission giving the go-ahead for bilateral negotiations between the Member States and Russia with a view to removing the embargo.

This agreement will deal a major economic blow to countries in central and eastern Europe, including Poland, as it is expected to mean that pork exports from those countries to 'pre-enlargement' Member States engaged in bilateral negotiations with Russia will cease.

1. Is there still a single market in the EU? Does the principle of European solidarity still apply? Or does each Member State now have to set up their own trade relationships with third countries?
2. Is the Commission going to leave Poland to sort out the problems caused by the Russian embargo on its own?