

**Question for written answer E-000620/2019  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Matt Carthy (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: EU-US trade talks

The Commission's decision to open discussions on the elimination of tariffs on industrial goods indicates an intention to negotiate trade with the US on a sector-by-sector basis. What assurances can the Commission give at this stage to exclude the agricultural sector from these discussions definitively?

How does it intend on maintaining a strong negotiating position throughout talks if the approach is to conclude agreements on a sectoral basis? Does it agree that this tactic of building up momentum for trade on a sectoral basis is disingenuous to the millions of people who protested and campaigned against the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)?