

**Question for written answer E-006066/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Krzysztof Jurgiel (ECR)

Subject: Safeguarding the financial interests of EU farms in the context of the EU-Mercosur trade agreement

The Commission, evaluating the free trade agreement that was negotiated with Mercosur, concluded that the outcome of the negotiations was 'a fair and balanced agreement with opportunities and benefits for both parties, including European farmers' and that 'the protection of sensitive EU products will be ensured through a range of measures, including graduation, tariff quotas, in-quota tariffs and segmentation of products, a safeguard instrument and financial support'. Meanwhile, agricultural producers in many Member States, including Poland, point out that growing imports of South American beef into the EU, which are the result of competitive advantage resulting from much lower health, traceability and environmental requirements, are already destabilising the European beef sector.

In light of the above:

Has the Commission developed a financial aid programme for EU beef producers whose farms will experience a significant drop in profitability due to this new price pressure?