Question for written answer E-001137/2021 to the Commission

Rule 138

Krzysztof Jurgiel (ECR)

Subject: New threat of anti-dumping duties by South Africa on imports of poultry meat originating

in Poland, Spain, Ireland and Denmark

The AVEC poultry farming organisation reports that in January 2021 the International Trade Administration Commission received a request concerning the alleged dumping of frozen bone-in cuts of the fowl gallus domesticus originating in or imported from Denmark, Ireland, Poland and Spain. This is a further protectionist measure imposed by the South African authorities, in addition to:

an anti-dumping measure of between 22% and 73% imposed in 2015 preventing most companies from Germany, the UK and the Netherlands exporting products to South Africa;

SPS bans introduced in 2016 to block imports of poultry meat from most EU exporting Member States;

a safeguard duty of 35.3% imposed in 2018 on EU products.

Trade relations with South Africa under the EU-SADC EPA do not therefore provide EU countries with free access to the South African market. Anti-dumping duties will put producers in Poland, Spain and Denmark, where poultry markets have been hit hardest during the COVID-19 pandemic, in a particularly difficult situation. Another threat to this sector is avian influenza, which has already been reported in many Member States.

In this connection:

What measures does the Commission plan to take to ensure that EU-RSA relations are mutually beneficial and lead to the removal of unjustified trade measures concerning poultry which are preferential for South African farmers?