

**Question for written answer E-001666/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Idoia Villanueva Ruiz** (The Left)

Subject: Impact assessment of the EU-Mercosur agreement

A recent investigation by the European Ombudsman, Emily O'Reilly, has found that the European Commission should have conducted an updated sustainability impact assessment of the EU-Mercosur trade agreement before it was concluded, in June 2019. The negotiations, Ms O'Reilly notes, failed to take into account the final assessment, the Commission's formal response to it, or the latest round of stakeholder consultations, as advocated by the Commission's own guidelines for sustainability impact assessments.

1. Why was it decided to conclude negotiations on the trade agreement before the sustainability impact assessment had been completed?
2. Does the Commission consider it necessary to take such assessments into account when negotiating trade agreements?
3. Does the Commission plan to carry out any kind of impact assessment of human rights, especially labour rights, women's rights and environmental aspects of the trade agreement?