

**Question for written answer E-001680/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Harald Vilimsky (ID)

Subject: Mercosur Agreement

The entry into force of the EU-Mercosur Agreement has been described as a fatal step in the wrong direction. Concerns have been expressed that it could result in additional environmental pollution, lower product quality and an even more dependent EU.

1. What is the justification for causing additional environmental pollution through unnecessarily long supply chains rather than subsidising local farmers and minimising long-distance transport operations?
2. In view of the pandemic and the resulting economic crisis, how can we justify the possible withdrawal of benefits from EU farmers under the agreement and the reallocation thereof to third-country farmers, instead of taking action to stimulate the EU economy?