

Question for written answer E-000093/2023
to the Commission
Rule 138
Jordi Cañas (Renew)

Subject: Immediate end to US duties on Spanish olives

In 2018, Donald Trump's administration imposed duties of 35% on imports of black olives from Spain. The illegal imposition of these duties has caused major damage to the sector, with exports falling by up to 60% and losses of more than EUR 170 billion since 2018, with the resulting loss of market share.¹

In its February 2021 ruling², the WTO ruled in favour of Spain's black olive producers and found that the duties imposed by the US were inconsistent with international rules and should be abolished immediately. However, more than a year later the US is still applying these duties.

In view of this:

1. Given the daily damage that this is causing to European farmers, how has the Commission allowed compliance with the WTO ruling to be delayed for more than a year?
2. What measures will the Commission take to ensure that the ruling is implemented and to protect this sector?

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¹ According to the Spanish Association of Exporters and Industrialists of Table Olives (ASEMESA).

² https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/cases_e/ds577_e.htm.