

**Question for written answer E-001973/2023**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Annika Bruna** (ID)

Subject: Introduction of mirror clauses in the free trade agreement with Mercosur

A number of European livestock farmers' unions recently addressed a letter to Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, to ask her to introduce mirror clauses in the trade agreement she is about to sign with Mercosur.

This agreement particularly impacts European livestock farmers, as it will once again increase EU meat imports, to the detriment of our farmers, the environment (carbon balance), health security (use of growth-promoting antibiotics) and animal welfare (factory farms with higher stocking densities than in the EU, less protective transport conditions, cage farming).

The livestock farmers recall that these mirror clauses could give the EU the opportunity to meet its environmental commitments and 'make the Paris Agreement a reality'. They also state that 'mirror clauses [...] need to be included if the EU takes sustainable production, consumer protection and the fight against deforestation seriously'. This would be the only way to put an end to animal dumping in international trade.

Will the Commission take heed of this legitimate call from our farmers?

Submitted: 20.6.2023