

**Priority question for written answer P-003277/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Moroccan competition for EU tomatoes

The EU-Morocco trade agreement, in force since 2012, has liberalised trade in agricultural products. One result is that 285 000 tonnes of Moroccan tomatoes can be imported into Europe each year at preferential tariffs.

In addition to these tariffs, Morocco also benefits from low production costs, which are largely due to the availability of very cheap labour and environmental standards that are well below those of the EU.

This has led to an exponential increase in imports of tomatoes in recent years, reaching 518 190 tonnes in 2020, jeopardising the viability of European farms.

1. Can the Commission confirm that Morocco actually pays all its customs duties?
2. Does the Commission intend to correct the import quota for Moroccan tomatoes, which has not been revised downwards in the wake of Brexit?
3. What measures does the Commission intend to take to protect French and EU tomato producers against this unfair competition?