

**Question for written answer E-014722/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Pablo Zalba Bidegain (PPE)

Subject: Import restrictions planned for 2016 in Argentina

At the beginning of 2015, the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) of the World Trade Organization adopted the report of the Appellate Body and the report of the Special Group appointed for the dispute between Argentina and the United States, the EU and Japan, and called upon Argentina to remove the import barriers in place since 2012.

At the current time, the restrictions imposed have not been lifted (the deadline is the end of this year), and there are indications that they will be increased in the short term.

In 2016, Argentina intends to modify the import licence scheme, requiring new tests on quality and proof of origin. Not only do these regulations run counter to Article XI(1) of the GATT 1994 and, therefore, restrict imports, but they are also discretionary and cause serious harm to European textile companies, which are particularly affected by the restrictions imposed by Argentina and are unable to plan for such unexpected changes.

Does the Commission intend to take any kind of action to prevent the implementation of these barriers to the import of European goods?