

**Question for written answer E-016070/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Pablo Zalba Bidegain (PPE)

Subject: Argentina's Advance Sworn Import Declaration system

The report adopted by the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body which resolved the dispute between Argentina and the US-EU-Japan found that the Advance Sworn Import Declaration or DJAI is not consistent with Article XI(1) of the GATT 1994, since it has a limiting effect on imports and thus constitutes an import restriction.

The DJAI is still in force at present (and predicted to be so until the end of 2015), leaving EU exports vulnerable. Applying for and obtaining the DJAI entails an enormous amount of time and effort for companies, on the one hand, and a serious economic risk on the other as authorisation is left to the discretion of the authorities concerned (and the procedure may take months).

EU companies find themselves subjected to administrative obstacles that are discriminatory and contrary to Article XI(1) of the GATT 1994. The lack of transparency and the obstacles placed in the way of exporting drag down their competitiveness.

Is the Commission considering whether to take measures of some kind so that Argentina cannot continue to restrict imports through the Advance Sworn Import Declaration system?

Has the Commission embarked upon talks with the Argentine Government to put an end to this situation as soon as possible?