# Resolution on US measures on EU farm support under the CAP (in the context of Spanish olives)

2018/2566(RSP) - 15/03/2018 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on US measures on EU farm support under the CAP (in the context of Spanish olives).

The text adopted in plenary was tabled by the EPP, S&D, ECR, ALDE, Greens/EFA, GUE/NGL and EFDD groups.

As a reminder, the **interim decision** taken by the US Department of Commerce imposed a tariff on Spanish olives after concluding that the subsidies that the olive producers received in the EU meant that olive products could be imported into the US at below market price.

The economic impact on the Spanish olive sector, if these tariffs become permanent, is estimated by the sector to be between **EUR 350 and 700 million** over the next five to ten years, which could potentially lead to the end of Spanish ripe olive export.

Spanish manufacturers could lose the US market, while competitors from third countries would benefit from the export gap caused by the US decision.

Members have stressed that the subsidies to Spanish olive growers under the EU's common agricultural policy were in line with World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules.

Against this background, Parliament called on the US authorities to **withdraw their interim decision** and re-establish a mutually constructive approach in this domain to the mutual benefit of producers and consumers on both continents.

For its part, the Commission is called on to:

- take all necessary diplomatic steps, both at bilateral level and in the WTO, to defend the EU system of CAP support, which is regarded by the WTO as non-trade-distorting and which has been approved under the WTO green box procedure;
- study the possibility of challenging any final US decision before the WTO;
- continue assisting the Spanish olive sector and the Government of Spain in order to ensure that WTO rules are fully respected by the US authorities in the course of these investigations;
- join forces with the Spanish authorities and the Spanish olive sector and to continue exchanging all relevant information with the US authorities in order to prevent the imposition of any unjustified measure.

Lastly, Parliament expressed its serious concerns about the negative consequences that the US countervailing procedure may have for the whole European agricultural model.