Temporary trade-liberalisation measures supplementing trade concessions applicable to Moldovan products under the EU/Moldova Association Agreement

2023/0144(COD) - 28/06/2023 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on International Trade adopted the report by Markéta GREGOROVÁ (Greens/EFA, CZ) on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on temporary trade liberalisation measures additional to the trade concessions applicable to Moldovan products under the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part.

The committee responsible recommended that the European Parliament adopt its position at first reading in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure by **taking over** the Commission's proposal.

In the context of the Russian military aggression against Ukraine, the European Parliament and the Council adopted Regulation (EC) No 2022/1279 in 2022, which introduced temporary trade liberalisation measures to supplement the trade concessions applicable to products from Moldova under the EU-Moldova Association Agreement.

The purpose of this legislative proposal is to renew and extend these trade liberalisation measures for a period of one year from the date of expiry of the current measures (25 July 2023). Under the proposed regulation, all outstanding tariffs under Title V of the Association Agreement will be suspended. This concerns fruits and vegetables subject to the entry-price system and to tariff-rate quotas, namely tomatoes, garlic, table grapes, apples, cherries, plums and grape juice.

The proposal also includes an expedited safeguard mechanism that can be activated in order to protect the Union market in case of adverse effects.

These temporary and exceptional measures will facilitate and support the existing trade flows from Moldova to the Union and help Moldova’s economy.