Basic information

2010/0318(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	Procedure completed
Autonomous trade preferences for Moldova **Subject** 3.10.03 Marketing and trade of agricultural products and livestock 3.10.06.08 Wine, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages 6.20.03 Bilateral economic and trade agreements and relations 6.20.04 Union Customs Code, tariffs, preferential arrangements, rules of origin **Geographical area** Moldova	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
INTA International Trade	MOREIRA Vital (S&D)	17/01/2011
	Shadow rapporteur WINKLER Iuliu (PPE) KAZAK Metin (ALDE)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	01/12/2010

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Transport, Telecommunications and Energy	3093	2011-05-27

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Trade and Economic Security	DE GUCHT Karel

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary

10/11/2010	Legislative proposal published	COM(2010)0649	Summary
23/11/2010	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
26/01/2011	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
15/02/2011	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A7-0041/2011	
24/03/2011	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T7-0104/2011	Summary
24/03/2011	Results of vote in Parliament		
27/05/2011	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
08/06/2011	Final act signed		
08/06/2011	End of procedure in Parliament		
24/06/2011	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2010/0318(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 207-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	INTA/7/04496

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A7-0041/2011	15/02/2011	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T7-0104/2011	24/03/2011	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Draft final act	00013/2011/LEX	08/06/2011	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2010)0649	10/11/2010	Summary

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
National parliaments	IPEX	
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Regulation 2011/0581 OJ L 165 24.06.2011, p. 0005	Summary

Autonomous trade preferences for Moldova

2010/0318(COD) - 08/06/2011 - Final act

PURPOSE: to amend Council Regulation (EC) No 55/2008 introducing autonomous trade preferences for the Republic of Moldova.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Regulation (EU) No 581/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 55/2008 introducing autonomous trade preferences for the Republic of Moldova.

CONTENT: Council Regulation (EC) No 55/2008 entered into force on 31 January 2008 and has been applied since 1 March 2008. That Regulation introduces a specific scheme of autonomous trade preferences (ATPs) for the Republic of Moldova. It gives all products originating in Moldova free access to the Union market, except for certain agricultural products listed in its Annex I, for which limited concessions have been given either in the form of exemption from customs duties within the limit of tariff quotas or in the form of a reduction of customs duties.

Every year since the application of Regulation (EC) No 55/2008, the tariff quota for wine was fully used months before the end of the year.

In order to support Moldova's efforts, in line with the ENP and the Eastern Partnership, and to provide an attractive and reliable market for Moldova's wine exports, it is proposed to increase the existing tariff quota for wine :

- for the year **2011 from 100 000 hectolitres to 150 000 hectolitres,**
- for the year **2012 from 120 000 hectolitres to 180 000 hectolitres,**
- and from the year **2013 onwards to 240 000 hectolitres per year**.

As Council Regulation (EC) No 55/2008 expires on 31 December 2012, and as it is important to ensure legal certainty for producers, exporters and importers, it is proposed to **extend the validity of Council Regulation (EC) No 55/2008 for another three years to 31 December 2015**.

In the light of the experience gained under the present ATP scheme, and in order to support further the development of Moldova's economy and the process of regulatory approximation leading to convergence with Union laws and standards in the context of the Eastern Partnership, it is appropriate to review the level of tariff quotas of some products covered by the present ATPs.

In order to ensure compliance with the Union's international obligations, the preferences contained in this Regulation should be made conditional on the continuation or renewal of the existing waiver from World Trade Organization obligations obtained by the Union.

The preferences provided for in this Regulation shall cease to apply, in whole or in part, should they not be permitted, in whole or in part, by a waiver granted by the World Trade Organization. Those preferences shall cease to apply from the day on which the waiver is no longer in effect. The Commission shall, sufficiently prior to that date, publish a notice in the Official Journal of the European Union to inform operators and the competent authorities thereof. The notice shall specify which preferences provided for by this Regulation will no longer apply and the date on which they cease to apply.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 1 July 2011.

Autonomous trade preferences for Moldova

2010/0318(COD) - 10/11/2010 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to amend Council Regulation (EC) No 55/2008 introducing autonomous trade preferences for the Republic of Moldova.

PROPOSED ACT: Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council.

BACKGROUND: Moldova is experiencing difficulties with its wine exports to some of its traditional markets, which threaten its economic recovery and the reform process that is vigorously pursued by the Moldovan government. This has led Moldova to request the European Commission in July 2010 to increase the duty free tariff quota for wine under the Autonomous Trade Preferences, granted to Moldova by Council Regulation (EC) 55/2008. The agricultural sector represents around 40 per cent of Moldova's economy and the wine sector is an important part of it, providing employment to some 300 000 people (one fourth of the working population), who are mainly living in rural areas and cultivating medium to smaller family plots.

It is therefore proposed to provide a measure to improve the general level of wine imports from Moldova to support the economic development of this country.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: no impact assessment was carried out.

LEGAL BASIS: Article 207(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

CONTENT: in order to support Moldova's economic recovery and provide a positive outlook to the people working in the wine industry in Moldova, it is proposed to increase the duty free tariff quota for wine:

- for **2011** from 100 000 hectolitres (hl) to **150 000 hl**,
- for **2012** from 120 000 hl to **180 000 hl**,
- from **2013** onwards to **240 000 hl per year**.

The level of the proposed increase is based on the fact that Moldova has systematically exhausted the existing quota and the potential of the sector to improve its niche markets in the EU, while at the same time the level of the increase does not destabilise the EU wine industry. It is expected that Moldova's wine sector will continue to improve the quality of its wines.

As Council Regulation (EC) No 55/2008 expires on 31 December 2012, and as it is important to ensure legal certainty for producers, exporters and importers, it is proposed to **extend the validity of Council Regulation (EC) No 55/2008 for another three years to 31 December 2015**. This is a reasonable amount of time, taking into account the perspectives for a future deep and comprehensive free trade area (DCFTA) between the EU and Moldova.

Council Regulation (EC) No 55/2008 foresees preferential tariff quotas also on other products in addition to wine. Having assessed the situation in the different sectors covered by the quotas, it is proposed to continue the progressive increase of some of those other quotas for the levels indicated in the annexed to this proposal.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATION: the proposed Regulation does not incur costs charged to the EU budget. As the general level of imports from Moldova is merely 0.04% of all EU imports further market opening is not expected to create negative effects for the EU. Currently around 90% of all imports from Moldova enter the EU free of duties.

The additional duty free tariff quotas proposed for the years 2011 to 2015 will result in a small loss of tariff revenue only for the year 2011. For the years 2012 to 2015 there will not be any loss of tariff revenue since present export volumes from Moldova of all the products covered by duty free tariff quotas are covered by the 2012 level of these quotas. Hypothetical revenue that could have been generated by future exports is not considered as a loss of tariff revenue.

Autonomous trade preferences for Moldova

2010/0318(COD) - 24/03/2011 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 563 votes to 14, with 14 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 55/2008 introducing autonomous trade preferences for the Republic of Moldova.

The European Parliament adopted its position at first reading, under the ordinary legislative procedure, taking over the Commission proposal.