

**Question for written answer E-003884/2018  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: CETA - tariff-rate quotas on Canadian imports of European cheese

Under the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), 18 500 tonnes of European cheese should be able to enter Canada tariff free by the end of the five-year phase-in period (2017-2021).

These tariff-rate quotas (TRQs) are of great importance to European cheesemakers and exporters because they allow the export of cheese while avoiding Canada's 250 % cheese customs tariff.

The decision of the Canadian Government to allocate half of the TRQ to Canadian cheese producers, European cheese producers' competitors, has resulted in only 11 % of the TRQ for 2018 being used by mid-May.

Section 20(a) of Annex 2-A of CETA states that the TRQ shall be reviewed at the 'mid-term and at the end of the phase-in period of any of these tariff rate quotas, or at any other time upon motivated request of a Party [...] in light notably of its effectiveness in ensuring quota utilisation, market conditions, and administrative burdens associated with the system for the economic operators and for the Parties'.

What is the Commission doing to resolve this issue?

When will the Commission request a review in order to ensure the full and proper utilisation of quotas?