

Brussels, 27 February 2026

European Business Coalition Fully Supports the Provisional Application of the EU–Mercosur Agreement

Today’s decision by the European Commission to provisionally apply the EU–Mercosur Interim Trade Agreement marks a decisive step towards implementation after quarter of a century of negotiations.

We, the 25 undersigned European business associations representing a broad range of businesses across the European Union (EU), fully support this essential step forward as an important booster for our competitiveness.

The economic case for the FTA is crystal clear. According to the European Commission’s own estimates, once fully implemented, the Agreement will increase EU exports to Mercosur by nearly 40%, generating €48.7 billion in additional annual exports and €77.6 billion in annual EU GDP gains by 2040¹. These figures translate into expanded market access for European companies, strengthened transatlantic value chains, and tangible growth opportunities in a market of more than 270 million consumers.

At the same time, the cost of years of delay has been profound. European businesses were estimated to be losing out on €3 billion in exports for every month the Agreement remained stalled². Those losses have already accumulated significantly, weakening Europe’s competitive position in the world, eroding market share, and postponing investment decisions that were taken elsewhere. As a result, since the Agreement was expected to enter into force in 2021, the European economy has already missed out on €291 billion in GDP growth – effectively the size of Portugal’s entire annual economic output.

In an increasingly competitive and fragmented global landscape, the EU-Mercosur Agreement is a major advantage. The swift operationalisation of the Agreement allows European companies to secure a first-mover advantage in the region. The Agreement offers a unique opportunity to diversify our trade relationships and improve access to essential inputs and raw materials. It is a modern, balanced and rules-based partnership. It broadly eliminates tariffs, reduces non-tariff barriers, and anchors binding commitments on sustainability, labour rights and environmental protection, reinforcing the EU’s role as a global standard-setter.

With ratifications advancing and provisional application, European businesses can now engage, invest and expand with greater certainty. It is essential that this momentum is maintained.

After 25 years of negotiations, Europe must now ensure that this partnership delivers in practice.

¹ [Economic Analysis of the Negotiated Outcome of the EU-Mercosur Partnership Agreement](#), European Commission

² [Time is Money: The Cost of Delaying the Ratification of the EU-Mercosur Trade Agreement](#), ECIPE

List of Signatories:



European Automobile
Manufacturers' Association
(ACEA)



AmCham EU



BusinessEurope



CAOBISCO - Association of
Chocolate, Biscuit and
Confectionery Industries of
Europe



CEC – European Footwear
Confederation



CECE - Committee for European
Construction Equipment



CECIMO - European Association
of Manufacturing Technologies



CEEV - Comité Vin



CEFIC - European Chemical
Industry Council



Cepi - Confederation of
European Paper Industries



CIUS - European Sugar Users



CLEPA - European Association
of Automotive Suppliers



COTANCE - Confederation of
National Associations of
Tanners and Dressers of the
European Community



EBCA - European Branded
Clothing Association



EDA - European Dairy
Association



ERT – European Round Table for Industry



ESF - European Services Forum



ESRA - European Sugar Refineries Association



eucolait
Eucolait



EURATEX - European Apparel and Textile Confederation



European Entrepreneurs CEA-PME



Medicines for Europe



Orgalim - Europe's Technology Industries



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The Brewers of Europe