

Urgent Appeal from 23 European Industry Associations to Conclude the EU-Mercosur Trade Negotiations

We, the undersigned, representing 23 associations spanning various European industries and businesses within the EU, encompassing sectors from manufacturing to food-related industries, wish to address the EU and Mercosur leaders with an urgent plea. We implore both parties to swiftly finalize the remaining open points in the trade negotiations. Time is of the essence.

The implementation of the EU-Mercosur agreement holds immense potential to enhance the economic integration of our respective regions and diversify our value chains, benefiting both imports and exports. This is critical for the competitiveness of our export-focused industries, which contribute to the creation of millions of jobs in Europe and play an indispensable role in European citizens' prosperity and living standards. Furthermore, it reinforces the EU's open strategic autonomy, particularly in a time of escalating economic security concerns, by fostering collaboration with like-minded nations.

The agreement presents an unprecedented and time-sensitive opportunity for Europe to establish itself as a pioneer by partnering with one of the world's largest economies. It promises to substantially reduce high tariffs and non-tariff barriers that currently hinder European companies from competing effectively in Mercosur's relatively closed market, boasting over 270 million consumers. We must recognize the substantial opportunities this agreement offers, as it contributes to maintaining a robust industrial structure in the EU, even in rural areas, thereby safeguarding the livelihoods and well-being of millions of European citizens.

Given the EU's limited reserves of critical raw materials required for the green and digital transition and the projected growth outside of the EU in the coming decade, our industries urgently require open export markets to market European goods and services and access raw materials at competitive prices. Hence, this agreement is not only an economic necessity but also a social and geopolitical imperative.

Committed to the principles of free, fair, and sustainable trade, we fully appreciate the importance of preserving the unique ecosystems of the Mercosur region. We firmly believe that the EU-Mercosur agreement offers a compelling incentive and effective tools for collaboration, particularly in upholding the region's commitments to sustainable development, including the cessation of illegal deforestation.

Consequently, we call upon European leaders to take immediate action, concluding and ratifying the EU-Mercosur agreement without any further delay. The time to act is now.



ACEA - The European Automobile Manufacturers' Association



AmCham EU



The Brewers Europe



CAOBISCO



CEC – European Footwear Confederation



CECIMO – European Association of Manufacturing Technologies



CEFIC - European Chemical Industry Council



CELCAA - European Liaison Committee for Agricultural and Agri-Food Trade



CERAMEUNIE - The European Ceramic Industry



CIUS



CLEPA - European Association of Automotive Suppliers



Comité Vin



Cosmetics Europe – The personal care Association



COTANCE – The European Leather Industry



ESF - European Services Forum



EURATEX - The European Apparel and Textile Confederation



Eurochambers - The Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry



EuroCommerce



EDA - European Dairy Association



Orgalim – Europe's Technology Industries



Solar Heat Europe



spiritsEUROPE



TIE - Toy Industries of Europe

CC: EVP Dombrovskis, Commissioner Breton, Mr Bernd Lange MEP, Mr Jordi Cañas MEP, Permanent Representations of the Member States to the EU