

# EU-MEXICO TRADE AGREEMENT

## Agriculture

How the agreement benefits the EU



**€1.4 billion**

The value of the EU's annual food and drink exports to Mexico

**2**

Mexico's ranking amongst the EU's trading partners in Latin America

### 1. **Scrapping** customs duties

EU product	Mexican customs duties	
	Now	With the new agreement
	Mexican duty rate on EU exports	Volume of annual EU exports which can enter Mexico at <b>0% duty rate</b>
 Poultry	Up to <b>100%</b>	<b>no limit</b> for the economically relevant products
 Cheese	Up to <b>45%</b>	<b>no limit</b> for blue cheeses, <b>5,000</b> tons for fresh and processed cheeses and <b>20,000</b> for other cheeses.
 Pork	Up to <b>45%</b>	<b>no limit</b> for virtually all products
 Chocolate, confectionery	Over <b>20%</b>	<b>no limit</b>
 Pasta	Up to <b>20%</b>	<b>no limit</b>

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## 2. Protecting 340 **Geographical Indications** (GIs)



Geographical Indications are distinctive foods and wines and spirits from specific regions in the EU. The new agreement aims to make it illegal to sell imitations of **340** of them in Mexico. This is a similar level of legal protection from imitations as in the EU.

Promoting and protecting Europe's flagship food and drink products in countries outside the EU is a top priority for the new, as it is for any EU trade agreement.

Some of the EU's distinctive food and drink products the new agreement aims to protect

Wines, beers and spirits		Cheeses		Meat and fish		Fruit, nuts, sweets	
Origin	Product	Origin	Product	Origin	Product	Origin	Product
 Czech Rep.	České pivo	 Netherlands	Gouda Holland	 Austria	Tiroler Speck	 Cyprus	Loukoumi Geroskipou
 Italy	Chianti	 Denmark	Danablu	 Hungary	Szegedi szalámi	 Greece	Elia kalamatas
 Portugal	Porto	 Italy	Fontina Reggiano	 Slovenia	Kranjska klobasa	 France	Pruneaux d'Agen
 Spain	Rioja	 Portugal	Queijo S. Jorge	 Germany	Nürnberger Bratwürste	 Romania	Magiun de prune Topoloveni

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 Germany	Bayerisches Bier	 Greece	Feta	 Italy	Prosciutto di Parma		
 France	Champagne			 Belgium	Jambon d'Ardenne		
 Hungary	Tokaj			 United Kingdom	Scottish Farmed Salmon		
 Sweden	Swedish Aquavit*			 Croatia	Baranjski kulen		
 Poland	Polish Vodka*						
 Bulgaria	Dunavska ravnina						
 Lithuania	Original Lithuanian vodka*						
 Ireland	Irish Cream*						
 Slovakia	Spišská borovička*						
 Finland	Vodka of Finland*						

\* Protection of GI under 2000 agreement reconfirmed in 2018 agreement



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## 3. Protecting European **consumers** and keeping food safe

The agreement safeguards current EU standards for food safety and animal and plant health, and governments' right to set new ones in future. And it upholds what's known as the 'precautionary principle.'



Upholds EU  
**standards**

The new trade agreement safeguards the EU's right to apply our own standards to all goods and services sold in Europe.

All imports from Mexico have to meet EU existing rules on:

- technical standards for products
- consumer safety
- environmental protection,
- animal and plant health
- food safety and genetically modified organisms (GMOs).



Protects the **right to regulate** in future

The new trade agreement allows us in the EU to regulate as we wish – in other words, to set higher standards and levels of protection for product and food safety, people at work, or the environment, if we want.

The agreement protects EU governments' "right to regulate" in these and other areas. The chapter on trade and sustainable development includes those safeguards.



Upholds the  
**precautionary principle**

EU governments have a legal right to act to protect human, animal or plant health, or the environment, in the face of a perceived risk and at a level they consider appropriate.

The right applies even when scientific analysis is not conclusive – when governments want to act on the basis of the 'precautionary principle'.

EU law, which EU trade agreements must respect, enshrines the precautionary principle. The new trade agreement also upholds it.



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## Promotes **animal welfare**

The EU and Mexico have agreed to cooperate more closely to raise standards of welfare for animals reared to produce meat.

Both sides agree to:

- recognise animals as sentient beings (EU law already does so)
- improve implementation of animal welfare laws

Farmers face different demands when ensuring the welfare of their animals, depending on:

- the way they rear them
- the rules and regulations they have to comply with.

EU and Mexican officials will take these differences into account in their discussions.



## Tackles **resistance to antibiotics** and other issues

The EU and Mexico have agreed to set up a working group so their agricultural officials and scientists can meet regularly.

They will exchange expertise, experiences and best practices, and in that way learn from each other.

Their discussions will cover:

- the growing problem of resistance to antibiotics, particularly in animals reared for meat
- animal welfare.

The agreement will enable the two sides to:

- influence international discussions about these topics
- strengthen our systems for antimicrobial resistance and animal welfare.



## 4. EU food and drink **exports** to Mexico

