

Ms Cecilia MALMSTRÖM

Commissioner for Trade
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
1049 Brussels

Wednesday, 31st July 2019

Subject: USA additional import tariffs on EU Citrus Fruit sector.

Dear Commissioner Malmström,

I am writing to you on behalf of **FruitVegetablesEUROPE**'s members from the **European citrus fruit exporting sector**. The European citrus fruit sector, particularly the Spanish exporters, would like to express its deep concern regarding the impact that USA additional import tariffs on imports from the European Union will have on the European citrus fruit exporting sector.

The American proposed list includes citrus fruit: **oranges, mandarins, clementines, grapefruit and lemons**.

We consider that putting additional tariffs rate on EU citrus fruit, particularly on **clementines**, would have a catastrophic impact on the exporting sector. Currently, Spanish clementines have to face additional obstacles to enter the USA market and paying a tariff rate of 1.9 €/Kg, while competing countries like Australia, Chile, Israel, South Korea, Morocco, Mexico and Peru are exempted from this tariff rate (Free Trade Agreements in force). In addition, Spanish companies must meet specific conditions regarding the control of pests and quarantines.

Therefore, an additional tariff rate of up to 100% (up to \$ 1.10-1.35/kg) would mean having to sell Spanish clementines in the USA market at \$ 2.45/kg. This will automatically eject the European and precisely the Spanish clementines out of the American market.

In our opinion, European companies must be able to compete on fair and equal terms.

Therefore, FruitVegetablesEUROPE and the European citrus fruit producers and exporters are totally against of this repressive measure and call upon the European Commission to **categorically excluding any European citrus fruit and particularly clementines from the American repressive list**.

FruitVegetablesEUROPE remains at your disposal for any further information you might need with regards to this issue.

We thank you in advance for the attention you will give to this request.

Yours sincerely,



Alba RIDAO-BOULOUMIÉ
Secretary General

Cc: Commissioner Phil Hogan; Mr Plewa (DG AGRI Director general); Ms Sabine Weyand (DG TRADE Director general)