



Deutscher Bundestag  
Ausschuss für die Angelegenheiten  
der Europäischen Union  
Der Vorsitzende

Satu Hassi  
Chairwoman of the Grand Committee  
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Berlin, 23. September 2019  
Geschäftszeichen: PE 1 – 7330

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Dear Colleague,

In light of the scepticism currently voiced by some Member States towards the free trade agreement between the EU and the Mercosur states, its conclusion, which requires a unanimous decision of the Council of the EU, seems to be delayed indefinitely.

In times of increasing trade conflicts, an independent trade policy of the EU through the conclusion of free trade agreements is more important than ever before. Global trade should in turn not take place detached from our common values. Human rights as well as high environmental and social standards are only some of the essential bases, which should also shape free trade.

These important and topical questions relating to the future trade relations of the EU should be discussed once again at the upcoming plenary meeting of the LXII COSAC in Helsinki. I, therefore, would like to ask you to put an appropriate item on the agenda of the conference.

Yours sincerely

Gunther Krichbaum