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Joint Press release

EU-agri-food chain organisations call on INTA MEPs to vote in favour of the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) next week

In view of the INTA Committee vote next Monday 5 November, the EU agri-food chain partners, COPA and- COGECA, FoodDrinkEurope and CELCAA call upon the INTA Committee Members of the European Parliament to vote in favour of the EU-Japan EPA report by MEP Pedro Silva Pereira.

Japan is among the strategic export destinations for agri-food products, with further potential for growth. The agreed elimination of tariffs and non-tariff barriers, the protection of European geographical indications (GIs), and future cooperation on agriculture and food related matters will create new export opportunities for a wide range of EU agri-food products. The agreement will also enhance the sector's competitiveness in the dynamic Asia-Pacific region.

We hope that the Honourable Members of the European Parliament's INTA Committee will provide their consent and support for a swift and successful ratification of the agreement benefiting both the EU and Japan. The upcoming INTA committee vote is an important next step in the parliamentary process and in view of the final plenary vote on the EU-Japan EPA scheduled for December.

*For further information on the benefits of the EU-Japan EPA for the EU agri-food sector please consult the attached [infographic](#).

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THE EU-JAPAN ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (EPA) IS BENEFICIAL FOR THE EU AGRI-FOOD SECTOR!



TODAY JAPAN IS:

- the 5th destination for EU agri-food exports in the world (€6.4 billion)
- a large and wealthy market (130 million consumers)
- growing demand for EU high quality products



THE EU-JAPAN EPA WILL BENEFIT THE EU AGRI-FOOD SECTOR THROUGH:

- a greater market access (elimination of tariffs and non-tariff barriers) and an enhanced competitiveness in the Asia-pacific region
- a high level of protection of Geographical Indications (GIs)
- an in-depth cooperation between EU and Japan on agri-food related issues

GREATER MARKET ACCESS FOR EU PRODUCTS TO JAPAN



85% of EU agri-food products exported to Japan will be liberalised in the coming years

Wine and sparkling wines	➔	Duty free from day one of the agreement
Hard cheeses (parmigiano reggiano, comté, gouda, etc.)	➔	Duty free
Soft cheeses (mozzarella, feta, camembert, etc.)	➔	Duty free quota with volume increase
Beef meat	➔	Significant duty reduction
Pigmeat and processed (sausages, ham, etc.)	➔	Duty free or quasi duty free
Pasta	➔	Duty free
Processed fruit and vegetables (processed tomatoes, jams, etc.)	➔	Duty free
Fruit and vegetables	➔	Duty reduction

MORE THAN 200 EUROPEAN GIS



Such as: Parmigiano Reggiano, Feta, Comté, Champagne, Prosecco, Aceto Balsamico di Modena, Prosciutto Toscano, Gorgonzola, Roquefort, Manchego, Irish whiskey, Polska Wódka, Tiroler Speck, Jambon de Bayonne, Münchener & Bayerisches beer, Genièvre, Nürnberger Bratwürste etc.

EU EXPORTS OF AGRIFOOD PRODUCTS TO JAPAN (€ MILLION, 2017)

Source: DG AGRI

