

# The EU-Mexico agreement, an opportunity for olive oil

**The agreement abolishes customs duties for the vast majority of goods and simplifies bureaucratic procedures. For the olive sector this is a positive news that offers opportunities for exports of olive oil, among other products, to a market that has 127 million consumers.**

The new trade agreement reached on April 21 is part of a broader EU-Mexico global agreement and represents an update of the treaty in force since 2000. Thanks to this new treatment practically all merchandise trade between the EU and Mexico , including those in the agriculture sector, will henceforth be exempt from customs duties, according to sources from the European Commission.

According to Cooperativas Agro-alimentarias, at present the agreement -especially its application-, puts many barriers to EU and Spanish exports (30% tariff on pork, non-tariff barriers for fruit and vegetables, wine and olive oil) . With the new commitment, pork tariffs are eliminated and the management of barriers in other products is improved.

In relation to this agreement, the president of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, said: "Mexico and the EU have worked together and have obtained a beneficial result for both. With this agreement, Mexico joins Canada, Japan and Singapore in the growing list of partners willing to work with the EU in the defense of an open, fair and rules-based trade."

For his part, the Commissioner of Agriculture, Phil Hogan, described the agreement as "very positive" for the agri-food sector "to create new export opportunities for our food and beverages of high quality, which in turn will generate more employment and growth , especially in rural areas.

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