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EU to slap tariffs on Ukrainian imports – FT

The new measures would reportedly reduce duty-free quotas on agricultural products, amid pressure from Eastern European members



The EU is preparing tariffs on Ukrainian agricultural imports when the current duty-free trade regime expires next month, Financial Times reported on Wednesday, citing diplomatic sources.

Brussels suspended import

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FILE PHOTO: An aerial view of trucks filled with Ukrainian grain ready for export. © Aleksandr Molochkov

duties and quotas on Ukrainian exports to the EU in 2022 following the escalation of the Ukraine conflict. The Autonomous Trade Measures

(ATMs) were extended last year and are set to expire on June 6. The EU previously said it would not prolong the tariff-free regime further, after cheap imports flooded Eastern European countries, sparking waves of farmer protests, most notably in Poland.

Following the unrest, Brussels introduced an emergency mechanism which allowed tariffs to be reimposed on specific products such as eggs, poultry, sugar, oats, maize, and honey, if imports of these products exceeded average annual volumes. Being part of the ATMs, it is also set to expire in three weeks.

The EU is currently working to review and update its overall free trade agreement with Ukraine, the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA). The bloc's officials have suggested that if the talks are not finalized by June 5, *“transitional measures”* will be applied, to allow more time for negotiation.

According to FT, Warsaw has asked Brussels to *“delay highly unpopular trade talks”* with Kiev so as not to stir the sensitive issue ahead of a presidential election on Sunday to *“minimize the chances”* that nationalist opposition candidate Karol Nawrocki will prevail.

Nawrocki, who is backed by Poland's conservative Law and Justice (PiS) party, has capitalized on domestic discontent over Ukrainian agricultural imports and has been critical of the idea of Ukraine's integration into the EU and NATO. He is currently



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polling in second place ahead of the May 18 vote.

The transitional proposal, recently sent to EU member states, “*would drastically cut the tariff-free quotas,*” specifically on maize, poultry, wheat and sugar, FT cited unnamed diplomats as saying.

The maize quota will drop on an annual basis from 4.7 million tonnes to 650,000 tonnes, with poultry falling from 57,110 to 40,000 and sugar from 109,000 to 40,700, according to the outlet.

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Ukraine’s government estimates that the cancellation of free-trade quotas would reduce its revenues by about €3.5 billion (\$3.9 billion) a year.

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C crime scene 5/14/2025 at 8:41 PM 0

So now EU has abandoned Ukraine?I knew this free ride would end 🤔🤔🤔

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R Richard S 5/14/2025 at 8:05 PM 1

Yah! The people must pay more again, before they can feed! Signed, your \$green\$ friends in Brussels. It tis for da climate!..... Funny how when Trump uses tariffs to start negotiations though, that’s always terrible. While when Canada & Europe increase cost of living with tariffs, somehow that is wonderful, according to the leftist media.

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A Albert Wolanski 5/14/2025 at 8:00 PM 1

This is not food what comes out from Ukraine, it is a product, God knows for what.

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M Melons1054 5/14/2025 at 7:59 PM 1

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 **John Wells** 5/14/2025 at 7:45 PM

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Salt in the wound



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