

Fertilizers Europe welcomes the European Commission's proposal to impose tariffs aimed at reducing EU dependency on fertilizers from Russia and Belarus, Calls for Greater Ambition

Brussels, 29 January 2025: Fertilizers Europe welcomes the European Commission's proposal for the imposition of tariffs on fertilizers originating from Russia and Belarus as a necessary response to the current geopolitical and economic challenges. Europe's food security and strategic autonomy depend on a robust and competitive EU fertilizer industry. It is therefore paramount that the tariffs are immediately set at a level that will effectively stop any imports from Russia and Belarus. Such move would reduce EU dependencies, weaken Russia's war economy, while supporting domestic producers and ensuring a steady supply of quality product for EU farmers.

On 28 January 2025, the European Commission adopted a proposal to impose tariffs on nitrogen-based fertilizers from Russia and Belarus.

"For too long, the European fertilizer industry has been exposed to artificially low-priced imports from Russia and Belarus, seriously distorting the market and undermining fair competition. Consequently, the Russian share of EU Nitrogenous fertilizer imports reached a 5-year high, while urea imports volumes from Russia reached a 10-year high. The European Commission's proposal for tariffs is a clear recognition of the pressing need to level the playing field and ensure that European producers can continue delivering high-quality, sustainable fertilizers for farmers across Europe" said Leo Alders, President of Fertilizers Europe.

Alders stressed *"While we strongly support the course of action, the urgency of the current landscape demands a more ambitious approach. We therefore call on the Council and the European Parliament to prioritise this dossier while strongly considering raising the tariff levels to minimum 30%. To ensure a balanced and effective transition, we recommend that the gradual implementation of import duties occur every six months, rather than annually. A semi-annual review mechanism will enable the EU to address any unintended consequences swiftly and maintain the intended impact of the measures."*

Fertilizers Europe stands ready to collaborate with the European Parliament, Member States and stakeholders to ensure the optimal design of tariffs to ensure a steady fertiliser supply and include measures to prevent origin fraud and circumvention tactics that could undermine the intended impact of these measures.

Notes:

[Commission proposes tariffs on remaining agricultural products and on fertilisers from Russia and Belarus](#)

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