

VALDIS DOMBROVSKIS

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Mr. Markus J. Beyrer Director-General Business Europe 168 avenue de Cortenbergh 1000 Brussels Belgium

Brussels, 1 1 111 2022

Dear Mr. Beyrer, dear Maruus!

Let me thank you for your letter concerning restrictions by Algeria to trade from Spain, and for your offer of support.

We are following the matter with outmost concern, in close coordination with the Spanish government. The restrictions have seriously affected Spanish exports and economic interests, but increasingly also those of companies of other EU Member States.

Following the joint statement I issued with HRVP Borrell on 10 June, my services have begun outreaching to the Algerian authorities both in Algiers and in Brussels, and is working to establish the facts (type of restrictions, level of formal involvement of government authorities). The support of BusinessEurope in collecting available evidence would be much appreciated.

Regrettably, these measures come on top of several other restrictions – some of them very recent – that the Algerian authorities have introduced and applied to restrict or block imports from the EU in a way that is not compatible with the EU-Algeria Association Agreement.

While we continue pursuing a solution of the matter at the diplomatic level, let me assure you that we will step up against any discriminatory treatment or any other measures that adversely affect the exercise of the European Union's rights under the EU-Algeria Association Agreement.

Algeria is an important trade and economic partner for the EU in the Mediterranean region. I trust that, in the name of our strong and long-term partnership, a swift solution will be found to fully reestablish commercial and investment relations between the European Union and Algeria.

Yours sincerely,

Valdis Dombrovskis