



Department for International Trade

The Rt. Hon. Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP
Secretary of State for International Trade
Department for International Trade
Old Admiralty Building
London
SW1A 2DY

Angus Brendan MacNeil MP
Chair, International Trade Committee
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

T +44 (0) 20 7215 5000
E trevelyan@trade.gov.uk
W www.gov.uk/dit

25 April 2022

Dear Angus,

TRADE MEASURES TO SUPPORT THE UKRAINIAN ECONOMY

On Thursday 21st April, I met His Excellency, Vadym Prystaiko, Ukraine's Ambassador to the United Kingdom, where we reached an agreement in principle that the UK will liberalise all tariffs on imports of Ukrainian origin under the UK-Ukraine Political, Free Trade and Strategic Partnership Agreement. This follows the commitment made by the Prime Minister in Kyiv that the UK would step up our economic support. This agreement in principle is in direct response to a request from the Government of Ukraine and is part of the UK's commitment to their economic stability. Both countries are now completing the necessary processes to rapidly bring this into force.

I recognise the interest that the Committee will have in these measures and so I wanted to provide some details at this point.

The UK Government offered this policy on a nonreciprocal basis, with no expectation or ask of the Ukrainian Government in return. However, the Government of Ukraine has confirmed that their preference is to match our approach and they will fully liberalise their tariffs under the FTA with the UK, in order to maximise the economic benefit for Ukraine and to help secure their economic future.

Key details include:

- Liberalising all tariffs under the Free Trade Agreement to zero on all goods originating from Ukraine will provide economic support in their hour of need. Ukrainian produce such as barley, honey, tinned tomatoes and poultry are likely to feel the most immediate impact.
- Our analysis shows that the average tariff on imports from Ukraine not already fully liberalised is currently around 22%. Removing these tariffs provides broad and deep support for the people of Ukraine.

I have also taken action to limit any possible impacts of the removal of tariffs to UK industry. I am doing this by:

- **Safeguards:** putting in place a broad safeguard mechanism to protect domestic industry in the unlikely event they are impacted by a surge of Ukrainian imports.
- **SPS:** not changing our existing SPS checks and standards, mitigating any potential food safety risks. For example, while tariffs would technically fall to zero on sheep, pork, and beef, in practice, this could not be utilised as Ukraine lack SPS approval to export these products to the UK. Ukraine has low export interest in these products, more than two-thirds of all farm animals in Ukraine are poultry. SPS measures are vital to protect biosecurity and human health.

In addition, the current tariff proposal will not alter any of the trade remedy measures the UK has in force on Ukraine to protect our steel industry. These measures will be reviewed separately in line with our usual process to review trade remedies measures.

These changes will be for an initial period of 12 months but include a simple process to agree an extension with Ukraine. The Government will shortly lay an SI to amend our domestic legislation accordingly.

This approach is leading the world in how we support Ukraine, and we will encourage trade ministers in other countries to follow our direction. With that in mind, I will soon convene trade ministers from the G20 and other nations to continue the international effort to put pressure on Putin and support Ukraine.

Following the announcement on Thursday 21st April, which expanded the list of products facing import bans and increased tariffs, today we also announce additional sanctions on Russia to continue putting pressure on Putin's regime. These sanctions include expanding our existing strong export prohibitions and closing loopholes to ensure that the UK is not selling Russia products and technology which could be used to repress the heroic people of Ukraine.

As I made clear to Ambassador Prystaiko, the United Kingdom will do everything in its power to support Ukraine's fight against Putin's brutal and unprovoked invasion and ensure its long-term security and prosperity. We stand unwaveringly with Ukraine in this ongoing fight, and will tirelessly work to ensure Ukraine survives and thrives as a free and sovereign nation.

I am copying this letter to the wider members of the International Trade Committee and also to Baroness Hayter of Kentish Town, Chair of the International Agreements Committee.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Anne Marie Trevelyan' in a cursive script. The signature is written on a white background.

THE RT HON ANNE-MARIE TREVELYAN MP
Secretary of State for International Trade
& President of the Board of Trade