

## **CIBE PRESS RELEASE**

16<sup>th</sup> December 2024

### **Revision of the EU-UKRAINE DCFTA: European sugar beet growers sound the alarm**

European sugar beet growers held their last 2024 Economic and General Affairs Committee (EGAC) meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> December, taking stock of the most urgent issues.

European sugar beet growers are outraged by the way the European Commission forced the Mercosur agreement. They call on the Council, as well as the European Parliament, to consider the major impacts of this agreement on Europe's farming sector, and to stop this deal.

Furthermore, European sugar beet growers underline that the revision of the EU-Ukraine DCFTA entails big uncertainties and existential threats as from the next season when the current EU ATM Regulation expires on 5 June 2025. "EU institutions need to wake up, our sector has reached its breaking point: we urge them to be extremely cautious vis-à-vis opening of our market to Ukrainian sugar imports from agro-holdings" declared EGAC Chair Guillaume Gandon.

"The ATM regulations have responded to the urgent context of the war. The context of this revision is totally different: it is impossible for EU growers to compete with such different structures and rules. Investments required in our sector, notably to respect the ecological transition, will flee immediately from our sugar beet factories and rural areas and factory closures will continue. It is imperative that the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement revision strictly adheres to the established sugar imports Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) of 20,070 tonnes annually" concluded Guillaume Gandon.

#### **About CIBE**

Gathers national and regional associations from 14 European beet-producing countries as well as the United-Kingdom and Switzerland. It represents and defends the livelihoods of 100 000 sugar beet growing farmers, for a total production of around 15-17 million tonnes in 2022.

#### **Contacts:**

E. LACOSTE

Tel.: + 32 2 504 60 90

111/9 Boulevard Anspachlaan – Brussels 1000

Transparency Register No.89930126483-54

[cibeoffice@cibe-europe.eu](mailto:cibeoffice@cibe-europe.eu)

[www.cibe-europe.eu](http://www.cibe-europe.eu)

✉ [@SugarBeetEurope](https://twitter.com/SugarBeetEurope)