

May 24, 2019

Commissioner Cecilia Malmström Commissioner for Trade European Commission Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200 1049 Brussels Belgium

Dear Commissioner Malmström:

As the European members of the Wine Origins Alliance, representing producers and grape growers in six prominent wine regions in the European Union, we write to oppose tariffs on wine as countermeasures in the context of the U.S.-EU WTO disputes on aircraft subsidies. Indeed, we oppose all tariffs on wine products on a global basis.

The Wine Origins Alliance is composed of 25 organizations from 10 countries spanning North America, Europe, Australia, and Asia. Together, we represent nearly 80,000 wineries and grape growers that have generated more than 900,000 jobs and more than €7.13 billion in global wine exports.

Wine is a sustainable product which promotes the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of people and the planet, now and in the future. Wine promotes peace and prosperity given its historical role in bringing nations together in commemorative moments of international understanding.

Of immediate concern, the United States has identified €18.71 billion of EU products – including wine and sparkling wine – on which it proposes imposing tariff countermeasures in relation with the WTO dispute on EU subsidies to Airbus (DS316). We understand that the European Union will soon be authorized to impose its own tariff countermeasures on U.S. products in relation with the WTO dispute over U.S. subsidies to Boeing (DS353).

We strongly urge you to exclude wine products from your WTO tariff countermeasures lists. The United States and the European Union are the two leading wine producers in the world, collectively exporting €25 billion last year. We urge you to work with the U.S. government to reduce or eliminate wine tariffs, not raise them. Promoting wine exports by removing trade barriers is critical to driving industry growth and creating new industry jobs.

Sincerely,



Allan Sichel President

Conseil Interprofessionnel du Vin de Bordeaux

François Labet President

Bureau Interprofessionnel des Vins de Bourgogne

Maxime Toubart Co-President Comité Champagne

Jean-Marie Barillère Co-President Comité Champagne Curiquends.

Giovanni Manetti

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Consorzio Vino Chianti Classico

Fernando Salamera

President

Consejo Regulador D.O.Ca. Rioja

Beltrán Domecq

President

Consejo Regulador del Vino de Jerez