



Press release

WTO Airbus-Boeing dispute: CEVI deplores the continuation of 25% tariffs imposed on wine in several EU Member States and urges the European Commission and the US Government to come up with a solution to end the trade conflict.

Paris, 13/08/2020. The United States renewed yesterday their 25% tariffs imposed on EU wines produced in France, Spain and Germany as part of the WTO dispute against the EU involving subsidies to Airbus, which were considered as detrimental for Boeing by the US Administration.

CEVI deeply deplores this decision, which is all the more regrettable as this comes in a difficult time for the wine sector at EU but also global level due to the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. European wine is a key strategic asset for EU exports, the US being one of our major market as the EU exported more than 3.9 billion euros of wine in the US in 2019. Combined with the crisis, the renewing of these tariffs clearly jeopardizes our sector's recovery in the long term.

We therefore urge the European Commission to engage with their American counterparts to reach a compromise, which benefits to both party, with many European independent winegrower entrepreneurs depending on US exports to keep their business economically viable. In addition and more than ever, we reiterate our call for a substantial dedicated EU compensation fund to preserve our economic interests in the US market.

CEVI's President, Thomas Montagne, declared: *"since October 2019, we have been struggling with tariffs imposed in a conflict that does not even concern us. This trade war between the US and the EU has a devastating impact on European independent winegrowers, and could kill their businesses that were established after many years of investments and efforts. It has to stop before we reach irreparable consequences for our sector"*.

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About CEVI:

CEVI is the only organisation representing and defending the interests of independent winegrowers at European level. CEVI counts today 12 000 members from 12 different Member States. Independent winegrowers are entrepreneurs at the head of a micro / small enterprise, often a family business. They make everything from the field to the bottle meaning that they produce and sell their wines directly to the consumer.