



**University of Azuay**

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**ANALYSIS OF THE NEGOTIATION OF THE  
STRATEGIC ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN MERCOSUR AND THE  
EUROPEAN UNION. ADVANCES AND  
SETBACKS 1999-2022**

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### **DEDICATION**

This degree work is dedicated to my parents Rocío and Rómulo and my brother Paul, who have supported me in each of my dreams and have been a pillar in my daily life despite the difficulties that have arisen. They are the best I have; I love them.

To my dear Danny, for accompanying me throughout all this time and supporting me in each of my steps, without a doubt, your support and unconditional love have given me the strength to move forward and never doubt how capable I am. My love and affection will always be with you.

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# **Análisis de las negociaciones del Acuerdo de Asociación Estratégica entre el Mercosur y la Unión Europea. Avances y Retrocesos 1999-2022**

## **Resumen**

La presente investigación tiene como objetivo identificar las razones por las cuales, después de dos décadas de negociaciones, el Acuerdo de Asociación Estratégica entre el Mercosur y la Unión Europea aún no ha sido firmado ni ratificado oficialmente. Empleando la metodología PRISMA, se desarrolló una revisión sistemática de literatura para analizar las negociaciones desde sus inicios en 1999 hasta 2022. Cabe destacar que, aunque el 28 de junio de 2019 se alcanzó un “acuerdo en principio” del pilar comercial, diversos factores han obstaculizado su avance definitivo, tales como la falta de transparencia, las preocupaciones medioambientales, las asimetrías entre los bloques y los obstáculos políticos y sectoriales. Para superar estos impedimentos, se proponen diversas recomendaciones que abordan estas preocupaciones. El Acuerdo de Asociación tiene el potencial de generar beneficios significativos para ambos bloques, pero es esencial superar los desafíos existentes para alcanzar un acuerdo que beneficie a todas las partes involucradas.

**Palabras claves:** Mercosur, Unión Europea, Acuerdo de Asociación Estratégica, negociaciones, obstáculos.

# **Analysis of the negotiation of the Strategic Association Agreement between Mercosur and the European Union. Advances and Setbacks 1999-2022**

## **Abstract**

This research aims to identify the reasons why the Strategic Association Agreement between Mercosur and the European Union has not been officially signed or ratified after more than two decades of negotiations. Using the PRISMA methodology, a systematic literature review was developed to analyze the negotiations from their inception in 1999 to 2022. It is worth noting that, although an "agreement in principle" on the trade pillar was reached on June 28, 2019, various factors have hindered its definitive progress. Such as the lack of transparency, environmental concerns, the asymmetries between the blocs and political and sectoral obstacles. To overcome these impediments, various recommendations are proposed that address these concerns. The Partnership Agreement has the potential to generate significant benefits for both trade blocs, but it is essential to overcome existing challenges to reach an agreement that benefits all parties.

**Keywords** Mercosur, European Union, Strategic Association Agreement, negotiations, obstacles.