



OVERVIEW OF FTA AND OTHER TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Updated February 2017 - For latest updates check **highlighted** countries or regions.

FTA NEGOTIATIONS

Country	Negotiating Directives	Current Status	Next Steps
NORTH AMERICA			
USA	Negotiating directives obtained in June 2013	Fifteen rounds have taken place since July 2013, the latest one during the first week of October.	The talks are on hold until there is more precision as regards the approach that will be developed by the new US Administration.
CANADA	Negotiating directives obtained in April 2009	The European Commission has adopted on 5 July 2016 draft proposals for Council Decisions on the signature, provisional application and conclusion of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and submitted this to the Council for adoption. The Council has adopted the CETA proposal on 28 October to allow the signature and the provisional application of CETA. The agreement was signed on 30 October 2016 during the EU Canada bilateral Summit.	After the Council's adoption of the Decisions for signature and provisional application, CETA was presented to the European Parliament for consent, where it is currently being deliberated. After EP consent, CETA could enter into force provisionally in 2017. Importantly, and in any event, CETA will not be applied before the consent of the European Parliament.

ASIA

<p>JAPAN</p>	<p>Negotiating Directives adopted on 29 November 2012</p>	<p>The Council gave the Commission the green light to start trade negotiations with Japan in November 2012. Together with the negotiating agenda the EU and Japan established specific 'roadmaps' for the removal of non-tariff barriers and for the opening up of public procurement markets in the Japan's railways and urban transport.</p> <p>Progress has been made on the implementation of the various roadmaps. Market access offers have been exchanged on trade in goods as well as on services and investment. Additionally, progress has been made with regard to consolidation of the negotiating texts for various chapters.</p> <p>The EU also transmitted to Japan two lists of non-tariff measures which reflected concerns raised by Member States and European companies doing business in Japan.</p> <p>Key outstanding issues include notably market access for goods including agricultural and processed agricultural goods, procurement, geographical indications, services and non-tariff measures.</p> <p>The 17th round of the EU-Japan FTA negotiations took place from 26-30 September in Brussels. Good progress was made at technical level. Several chapters are now almost finalised.</p> <p>Working groups have continued negotiations in December 2016 and January 2017.</p>	<p>Significant progress has been made and the objective is to conclude the EU-Japan Free Trade Agreement early in 2017 provided that the substance is right and that the level of ambition of the agreement is sufficiently high.</p>
<p>CHINA</p>	<p>Negotiating Directives adopted on 13 October 2013</p>	<p>The negotiations for an investment agreement were launched in November 2013. The 12th round of the EU-China investment negotiations took place in Brussels from the 26th to the 30th September 2016 and were followed with an intersessional meeting in December 2016.</p>	

ASEAN	Negotiating directives obtained in April 2007	Negotiations with a regional grouping of 7 ASEAN Member States started in July 2007. In March 2009, the 7th Joint Committee agreed to take a pause in the regional negotiations. In December 2009, EU Member States agreed that the Commission would pursue FTA negotiations in a bilateral format with countries of ASEAN. Negotiations with Singapore and Malaysia were launched in 2010, with Vietnam in June 2012 and with Thailand in March 2013. Negotiations with Philippines and Indonesia were launched in 2016. Please see below the information about each particular country.	The Commission continues exploratory informal talks with other individual ASEAN member states with a view to assess the level of ambition at bilateral level. A regional agreement remains the ultimate objective.
SINGAPORE	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	The negotiations for a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement were completed on 17 October 2014. The initialled agreement is available on DG Trade's website. The draft agreement needs now to be formally approved by the European Commission and then agreed upon by the Council of Ministers, and ratified by the European Parliament On 10 July 2015 the Commission lodged the application initiating proceedings with the European Court of Justice (ECJ) for a Court opinion on the EU competence to sign and ratify the FTA.	The Commission is awaiting the court's opinion to get clarity on the procedure for the approval of the deal.
MALAYSIA	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	In September 2010 EU Member States approved the launch of negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement with Malaysia. One month later, negotiations were launched in Brussels. After seven rounds, negotiations were put on hold in April 2012 at Malaysia's request. The EU has reached the half-way point of the FTA negotiations with Malaysia. However, the most difficult issues remain to be resolved.	In 2016, a stocktaking exercise was taking place to assess the prospect to resume negotiations. The results are currently being analysed.
VIETNAM	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	On 2 December, President Juncker and Vietnamese Prime Minister Dung announced the formal conclusion of the negotiations for an EU-Vietnam FTA.	On 1 February, the preliminary text of the Agreement was published on DG Trade's website together with a Commission Staff Working Document on Human Rights and Sustainable Development in the EU-Vietnam Relations with specific regard to the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement . The legal review of the text is on-going. The text will then be translated into all official EU languages and into Vietnamese before being presented to the Council for ratification and the European Parliament

			for consent in 2017. It is expected that the agreement can enter into force in 2018.
THAILAND	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	The Council endorsed the launch of negotiations on an FTA with Thailand in February 2013. Both sides seek to negotiate a comprehensive agreement covering, inter alia, tariffs, non-tariffs, services, investment, procurement, intellectual property, competition, regulatory issues and sustainable development. The talks were officially launched in March. Four rounds have taken place so far. The last meeting took place on 8-10 April 2014 in Brussels.	No FTA rounds have been scheduled.
INDONESIA	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	The Council gave the Commission the green light to start negotiations for an FTA with Indonesia on 18 July 2016. The introductory round of negotiations took place on 20 and 21 September 2016. The first full round was held from 24 to 27 January in Indonesia.	The Commission plans to publish shortly the EU proposals presented in the negotiations.
PHILIPPINES	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	Negotiations for an FTA with the Philippines were formally launched on 22 December 2015. The first round of negotiations took place on 23-27 May 2016 in Brussels.	The second round of negotiations is expected to take place mid-February 2017.
MYANMAR/BURMA	Negotiating directives for an investment protection agreement adopted in March 2014	The EU sent its text proposal in December 2014. Four rounds of negotiations have taken place so far: 9-12 February 2015, 25-29 May 2015, 21-23 September 2015, and 13-16 December 2016. Good progress could be made but discussions will have to continue.	No date has been set yet for the next round of negotiations.
INDIA	Negotiating directives obtained in April 2007	Negotiations for an ambitious and broad-based FTA were launched in June 2007 and, after 12 formal rounds and several technical meetings and discussions, were brought to a <i>de facto</i> standstill in the summer 2013 due to a mismatch of the level of ambitions and expectations. Negotiations focussed on market access for goods (to improve coverage of offers on both sides), services, a meaningful chapter on government procurement and sustainable development. Discussions have resumed since January 2016 with the purpose of assessing whether sufficient progress can be made in key outstanding issues before formally resuming negotiations. At the EU-India Summit of 30 March 2016, President Juncker took a clear stance in favour of tangible	

		progress in the negotiations provided there is movement on the outstanding issues.	
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LATIN AMERICA

MERCOSUR	Negotiating Directives of 1999	After the suspension of negotiations in 2004, negotiations with Mercosur were officially re-launched at the EU-Mercosur summit in Madrid in May 2010. Nine rounds of negotiation focusing on trade rules took place between 2010 and October 2012. An exchange of market access offers took place on 11 May 2016 and was followed by a negotiating round between 10 and 14 October in Brussels.	The next round of negotiations is expected to take place in Buenos Aires in March 2017. In the meantime, the two sides continue working together in 'intersessional' manner.
MEXICO	Negotiating Directives of 2016	The EU and Mexico met in Brussels on 13-14 June 2016 to start the negotiation process for the modernisation of the EU-Mexico Global Agreement. A second negotiating round took place in Mexico City on 22-25 November which was preceded by exchange of textual proposal for certain chapters.	The next round of negotiations is expected to take place in Brussels in early April 2017.

ACCESSION AND EASTERN NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNTRIES

TURKEY	Draft Negotiating directives adopted by Commission on 21 December 2016. The Commission's Impact Assessment supports the Commission's proposal for the Negotiating directives. The Impact	Council started its deliberations on the Commission's proposal on 20 January 2017. The proposal is under discussion in the Council Working Groups COELA and TPC.	The negotiations can start once the Council adopts the Negotiating directives. In the meantime, the Commission continues informal exploratory talks with Turkey, with a view to facilitating the future negotiation process.
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	Assessment was published on 10 January 2017.		
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA		The EU-Bosnia and Herzegovina Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) was signed in June 2008 and entered into force in June 2015 (the trade part entered into force in July 2008 through an Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters).	Negotiations for Bosnia and Herzegovina's accession to the WTO are on-going.
SERBIA		The EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) was signed in April 2008 and entered into force in Sept. 2013 (the trade part entered into force in 2010 through an Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters).	Negotiations for Serbia's accession to the WTO are on-going.
AZERBAIJAN	Negotiating directive obtained in November 2016	Launch of the negotiations in February 2017 (visit of the President Alyev to Brussels). Negotiations of WTO accession of Azerbaijan are on going	

SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN & MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES

GENERAL OVERVIEW (see below for information on particular countries)		<p>The EU has established a network of Association Agreements, which include reciprocal FTAs essentially limited to trade in goods, with 8 countries of the region (all except Libya and Syria). In order to promote broader regional integration, the EU also encourages the countries of the region to agree FTAs between themselves and has promoted wide participation in the Pan-Euro Mediterranean system of cumulation for rules of origin (in which EFTA and Western Balkans countries also participate).</p> <p>Under the framework of the Association Agreements, a series of bilateral negotiations have been launched with individual partners to complement and expand these agreements in areas</p>	
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		<p>such as agriculture, industrial standards, dispute settlement and services and establishment. A number of these free-standing negotiations have been successfully concluded, while others are continuing and, where appropriate, may be absorbed into DCFTA negotiations.</p> <p>On 14th December 2011, the Council authorised the Commission to open bilateral negotiations to establish Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Areas with Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia. Individual scoping exercises to prepare these negotiations were launched with Morocco, Tunisia and Jordan in March 2012 and with Egypt in June 2013. Negotiations with Morocco were launched in March 2013 and with Tunisia in October 2015.</p>	
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COUNTRY OVERVIEW			
MOROCCO	Negotiating directives for a DCFTA adopted by the Council on 14 th December 2011	<p>The EU-Morocco Association Agreement was signed in February 1996 and entered into force in March 2000. The two sides subsequently negotiated an additional protocol setting up a dispute settlement mechanism, which entered into force in November 2012, and an agreement on further liberalisation of trade in agricultural products which entered into force in October 2012.</p> <p>In March 2013, the EU and Morocco launched negotiations for a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA).</p> <p>Four rounds have taken place and texts for all chapters have been put on the table.</p>	The latest round took place in April 2014. The negotiations were then put on hold to accommodate the plan of Morocco to carry out additional studies before continuing the negotiations.
TUNISIA	Negotiating directives for a DCFTA adopted by the Council on 14 th December 2011	<p>The EU signed an Association Agreement with Tunisia in July 1995. The Agreement entered into force in March 1998.</p> <p>In December 2009, the EU signed also an agreement on Dispute Settlement Mechanism that entered into force in September 2011.</p> <p>A preparatory process for launching negotiations on a Deep and</p>	

		<p>Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTAs) was completed in June 2014 and the negotiations were launched in October 2015.</p> <p>Bilateral negotiations on the liberalisation of trade in services and establishment, and agriculture will be integrated into the DCFTA. The negotiations were launched on the 13th of October in Tunis, in presence of Commissioner Malmström and the Tunisian Minister of Trade. A preliminary round followed during the week of 19 – 22 October 2015 in Tunis. The first full round took place in Tunis in the week of 18 – 21 April 2016.</p>	
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ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries)

[See Overview of Economic Partnership Agreements \(EPAs\)](#)

OTHER TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Country	Negotiating Directives	Current Status	Next Steps
ARMENIA	Directives for the negotiation of a Framework Agreement between the EU and Armenia were adopted by the Council on 12 October 2015.	No mandate/negotiations for an FTA. Negotiations to enhance and replace the current Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) in force, including its trade and investment related provisions.	6 th trade negotiation round in February 2017
AZERBAIJAN	Directives for the negotiation of a Comprehensive Agreement between the EU and Azerbaijan were adopted by the Council in November 2016.	No mandate/negotiations for an FTA. Negotiations for an enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) to replace and update the current PCA in force, including its trade and investment related provisions, have been suspended..	Political launch of negotiations on 7th February 2017.
BELARUS	Conclusions of the European Council on Belarus of 15 February 2016 call for 'the acceleration of the implementation of measures aimed at enhancing EU-Belarus cooperation in a number of economic, trade and assistance related fields'.	Through the amendment of Regulation (EU) 2015/936, Commission proposed on 3 February 2016 to abolish the autonomous quotas for the import of textiles and clothing from Belarus, also considering their limited use and impact on trade.	On 13 October 2016, INTA Committee adopted its report suggesting amendments to the Commission proposal. On 28 November 2016, the STIS (the Committee in the lead) examined the INTA amendments and endorsed them without entering into trilogue negotiations. Coreper endorsed the compromise on 7 December 2016. Plenary vote is scheduled for January 19.
CHINA – Investment	The Council authorised the Commission to initiate negotiations for a comprehensive EU-China investment agreement on	Negotiations of a comprehensive EU-China investment agreement were formally launched at the EU-China Summit of 21 November 2013 in Beijing. The aim of this agreement is to remove market access barriers to investment and provide a high level of protection to	No date has been set yet for the 13 th round of negotiations.

	<p>18 October 2013.</p> <p>The mandate to launch negotiations on a new Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with China was approved by the Council in December 2005.</p>	<p>investors and investments in EU and China markets. It will replace the 26 existing Bilateral Investment Treaties between 27 individual EU Member States and China by one single comprehensive investment Agreement.</p> <p>The 12th round of negotiations took place in Brussels the week of 26 September 2016.</p> <p>Earlier this year the EU and China negotiators reached clear conclusions on an ambitious and comprehensive scope for the EU-China investment agreement and established a joint negotiating text.</p> <p>Separate negotiations with China for an upgrade of the 1985 Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement were launched in 2007 but have been stalled since 2011 due to divergences between the mandates and expectations of the parties.</p>	
Services (TiSA)	<p>In February 2013, the European Commission received from the Council its green light for negotiations on a new international agreement on trade in services. The negotiations cover all services sectors, including information and communication technology (ICT) services, logistics and transport, financial services and services for businesses.</p>	<p>The talks started formally in March 2013. To date, 23 WTO members (including EU representing it 28 Member States) have taken part in the negotiations. By the end of 2016, most participants had indicated which of their services markets they were prepared to open and to what extent. By December 2016, 21 negotiation rounds took place. Currently, 23 WTO members (including EU representing it 28 Member States) are taking part in the negotiations.</p>	<p>The talks were put on hold late autumn 2016. Next steps to be determined.</p>
Green Goods		<p>Since July 2014 the EU and 16 other members (see below) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) have been negotiating an Environmental Goods Agreement (EGA) to</p>	<p>Further steps to be determined.</p>

		remove barriers to trade in environmental or "green" goods that are crucial for environmental protection and climate change mitigation. The next, 18 th round took place in November and was followed by a Ministerial meeting in December 2016. Despite efforts, the deal could not yet be reached. Read more.	
TRADE IN AGRI-FOOD AND FISHERIES PRODUCTS with EEA/EFTA COUNTRIES		<p>Negotiations on further liberalisation for agricultural and fisheries are part of the EEA agreement.. Negotiations of fish quotas with Norway and Iceland took place between January 2014 and July 2015 and were finalised on 17 July 2015. Negotiations with Iceland on GI and liberalisation of basic agricultural products and processed agricultural products were also concluded in 2015. They are in the process of formal adoption.</p> <p>Negotiations with Norway on geographic indications started in 2013 and are now on hold while negotiations on liberalisation of agricultural products, which started in 2015 continue. Negotiations on further liberalisation of agricultural products with Switzerland started in 2008 and are on hold since 2009.</p>	Negotiations are on hold with Switzerland.
ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS WITH ANDORRA, MONACO AND SAN MARINO		The Council authorised on 4 December 2014 negotiations "on one or several Association Agreement(s)" between the EU and Andorra, Monaco, San Marino (AMS). The main goal of these negotiations which started in 2016 is to allow AMS to participate in the internal market (four freedoms).	

THE STATE OF EU TRADE

2017



-  EU & Customs union (Andorra, Monaco, San Marino, Turkey)
-  European Economic Area (Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein)
-  Preferential trade agreement in place (FTA, EPA, DCFTA)
-  Preferential agreement awaiting adoption/ ratification
-  Preferential trade agreement being negotiated
-  Potential for free trade partnership
-  Stand-alone investment agreement being negotiated
-  Preferential agreement in the process of modernisation

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