



# OVERVIEW OF FTA AND OTHER TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Updated July 2018 – Updates in red

## FTA NEGOTIATIONS

Country	Negotiating Directives	Current Status	Next Steps
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>			
<b>USA</b>	Negotiating directives obtained in June 2013	Fifteen rounds have taken place since July 2013, the latest one during the first week of October 2016.	Negotiations with the United States on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) were stopped until further notice at the end of 2016.
<b>CANADA</b>	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. The European Parliament gave its consent to CETA on 15 February 2017.	On 21 September 2017, the agreement has provisionally entered into force. It will enter into force fully and definitively when all EU Member States parliaments have ratified the Agreement.

**ASIA**

<p><b>JAPAN</b></p>	<p>Negotiating Directives adopted on 29 November 2012</p>	<p>On 6 July 2017 the EU and Japan reached an agreement in principle on the main elements of an Economic Partnership Agreement at the EU-Japan summit. The Agreement was finalised on 8 December 2017.</p> <p>The EPA removes the vast majority of duties paid by EU companies, which sum up to €1 billion annually, opens the Japanese market to key EU agricultural exports and increases opportunities in a range of sectors. It sets the highest standards of labour, safety, environmental and consumer protection, data protection, fully safeguards public services and has a dedicated chapter on sustainable development. For the first time, an agreement includes a specific commitment to the Paris climate change.</p> <p>After legal scrubbing and translation into all EU official languages the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement was submitted for the approval of EU Member States on 18 April 2018.</p>	<p>Once approved by the Council, the agreement will be sent to the European Parliament.</p>
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<p><b>CHINA</b></p>	<p>See below in: Other Trade Negotiations</p>		
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<p><b>ASEAN</b> <i>More on each particular country below</i></p>	<p>Negotiating directives obtained in April 2007</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>In March 2017 Ministers tasked the Senior Economic Officials to work out the parameters of a future ASEAN-EU region-to-region agreement and to report back to the next Ministerial meeting in 2018 under the Singapore chairmanship. Since then, a Joint Working Group on the FTA met once in October 2017 in the Philippines. The last meeting of the Joint Working Group took</p>	<p>No date for the next meeting</p>
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		place end January 2017	
SINGAPORE	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	Trade and investment negotiations with Singapore were launched in 2010 and completed in 2012, with the exception of provisions on investment protection, which were finalised in 2014 and subsequently amended in 2017 to bring them in line with the EU's new approach to investment protection and dispute resolution. Following the Court of Justice of the EU Opinion 2/15 (issued in May 2017), the architecture of the agreement was adapted to that of two standalone agreements: a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and an Investment Protection Agreement (IPA) . The draft trade and investment agreements were presented to the Council on 18 April 2018 and are available on DG Trade's website.	The Council needs now to adopt the decisions authorising the signature of the agreements before these can be signed and presented to the European Parliament for consent. The investment protection agreement will then follow its ratification procedure also at Member State level.
MALAYSIA	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	Trade and investment negotiations with Malaysia were launched in October 2010. After seven rounds, negotiations were put on hold in April 2012 at the request of Malaysia. While much has been advanced in negotiations, the most difficult issues remain to be resolved.	In 2016, a stocktaking exercise was initiated to assess the prospect to resume negotiations. Both sides are currently assessing whether there is enough common ground to re-launch the negotiations in due course. The EU is looking for a comprehensive and ambitious agreement, as was reached with Singapore and Vietnam.
VIETNAM	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	On 2 December 2015, Commission President Juncker and Vietnamese Prime Minister Dung announced the formal conclusion of the negotiations for an EU-Vietnam FTA. On 1 February 2016, the <u>preliminary text of the Agreement</u> 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 <u>EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement</u> . Following the Opinion 2/15 of the European Court of Justice on 16 May 2017 on the Singapore FTA, the Agreement with Vietnam was split into a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and an Investment Protection Agreement (IPA). The legal review of the FTA text is completed.	The FTA text is currently being translated into the other 22 EU official languages. The legal review of the IPA text is ongoing. Once translated, the Commission will make a proposal to the Council for signature and conclusion of the agreements. After signature the Council will send the agreements to the European Parliament, aiming for the entry into force of the trade agreement in 2019. The investment protection agreement with Vietnam will follow its ratification procedure also at Member State level. Preparations are on-going for an effective and timely implementation of the Agreements.
THAILAND	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	The Council endorsed the launch of negotiations on an FTA with Thailand in February 2013. The talks were officially launched in March 2013 and four rounds took place with the last one held in April 2014. Since the military takeover in Thailand in May 2014 no further FTA rounds have been scheduled.	The EU remains committed to resuming negotiations with Thailand when the conditions are right to do so.

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 first round of negotiations took place in September 2016 in Brussels. The last round of negotiations took place from 19 to 23 February 2018 in Indonesia.	The most recent round of negotiations took place from 9 to 13 July in Brussels.
PHILIPPINES	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	Trade and investment negotiations with the Philippines were launched on 22 December 2015. The first round of negotiations took place on 23-27 May 2016 in Brussels and the second round was held on 13-17 February 2017 in Cebu City (Philippines).	No date has been set yet for the next round of negotiations.
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. Technical discussions were held on 26-27 April 2017, and good progress was made, but discussions will have to continue.	No date has been set yet for the next round of negotiations.

<b>INDIA</b>	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, were brought to a <i>de facto</i> standstill in the summer 2013 due to a mismatch of the level of ambitions. Following the EU-India Summit held on 6 October 2017, the EU and India had intensive talks at Chief Negotiator and expert levels to review the state of play on key areas of the suspended EU-India FTA negotiations and explore whether there exists a mutual understanding on the scope and level of ambition for the FTA. Chief Negotiators wrapped up the talks in New Delhi on 7 June 2018. The exercise was most useful in providing clarity on the level of ambition we can expect from India: The Commission's assessment is that a re-launch of FTA negotiations can only be envisaged if we are ready to accept a very low level of ambition, and with no guarantee of success. Such relaunch is therefore not advisable. An alternative would be to explore the possibility of a separate investment protection agreement with India. The Commission's assessment was endorsed by EU Member States in the meeting of the Trade Policy Committee at Full member level on 22 June 2016.	Inform India about the EU's decision regarding a possible resumption of FTA negotiations and alternative thereto.
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## OCEANIA

<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	Commission proposed negotiating directives in September 2017. The Council discussions on the texts are on-going.	A joint scoping paper was concluded in April 2017. In September 2017 the College adopted the draft negotiating directives. The Commission proposal was published, along with the impact assessment report.	Negotiations launched 18 June 2018, first formal round of talks take place in Brussels from 2 to 6 July.
<b>NEW ZEALAND</b>	Commission proposed negotiating directives in September 2017. The Council discussions on the texts are on-going.	A joint scoping paper was concluded in March 2017. In September 2017 the College adopted the draft negotiating directives. The Commission proposal was published, along with the impact assessment report.	Negotiations launched 21 June 2018, first formal round of talks take place in Brussels from 16 to 20 July.

#### LATIN AMERICA

<b>MERCOSUR</b>	Negotiating Directives of 1999	Negotiations rounds were resumed in 2016 after an exchange of market access offers took place in May 2016. A first round was held in Brussels in October 2016, followed by rounds alternatively in Mercosur and Brussels. The last one took place in Asuncion from 21 February to 2 March 2018.	The date for the next round is still to be confirmed.
<b>MEXICO</b>	Negotiating Directives of 2016	The EU and Mexico met in Brussels in June 2016 to start the negotiation process for the modernisation of the EU-Mexico Global Agreement. The third negotiating round, which took place in Brussels in April 2017, was preceded by the exchange of textual proposals in almost every chapter. The last round of negotiations took place in Mexico City from 12 to 16 February 2018. A political agreement was reached on 21 April 2018.	Negotiators are resolving remaining technical issues and finalising the full legal text by the end of 2018.
<b>CHILE</b>	Negotiating Directives of 2017	The first round of negotiations took place on 16 November 2017 in Brussels. The second one in Santiago de Chile on 15-19 January 2018.	The next round will take place in Brussels the week of 28 May

#### CANDIDATE COUNTRIES

<b>TURKEY</b>	Draft Negotiating directives adopted by	Council started its deliberations on the Commission`s proposal on 20 January 2017. During 2017, the proposal was under	The negotiations can start once the Council adopts the Negotiating directives.
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	Commission on 21 December 2016.	discussion in the Council Working Groups COELA and TPC, as well as in the European Parliament. It is up to the Council to conclude its work on the Negotiating directives.	
<b>BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA</b>		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.
<b>SERBIA</b>		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.

#### **SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN & MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES**

<b>GENERAL OVERVIEW</b> (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 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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</p>	
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		Morocco were launched in March 2013 and with Tunisia in October 2015.	
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<b>COUNTRY OVERVIEW</b>			
MOROCCO	Negotiating directives for a DCFTA adopted by the Council on 14 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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 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 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2015 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 and was followed by a technical round during 6 – 10 February 2017 in Brussels</p>	The second full round took place in Tunis in May 2018.

**ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries)**

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

## OTHER TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Country	Negotiating Directives	Current Status	Next Steps
<b>ARMENIA</b>	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 related provisions were concluded on 27th February and initialled on 21 March 2017. The Agreement was signed on 24 November 2017 in the margins of the Eastern Partnership summit.	The Agreement applies provisionally as of 1 June 2018.
<b>AZERBAIJAN</b>	Directives for the negotiation of a Comprehensive Agreement between the EU and Azerbaijan were adopted by the Council on 7 November 2016.	No mandate/negotiations for an FTA.  Negotiations to enhance and replace the current Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) in force, including its trade related provisions, were launched in February 2017.  Negotiations of the WTO accession of Azerbaijan are ongoing.	Negotiations are ongoing. The next round of negotiations is planned for third quarter of 2018.
<b>BELARUS</b>	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.	Regulation (EU) 2017/354 of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2015/936 on common rules for imports of textile products from certain third countries not covered by bilateral agreements, protocols or other arrangements, or by other specific Union import rules was adopted on 15 February 2017 and published on 3 March.



<b>KYRGYZSTAN</b>	College adopted joint recommendations to the Council on 2 June 2017	<p>The Council authorised the Commission and the HRVP to negotiate a new agreement (Enhanced Partnership Cooperation Agreement) with the Kyrgyz Republic, building on the provisions of the existing PCA which dates from 1995. The Council has approved the negotiations directives on 9 October 2017. Negotiations have started, with a first 'political' round that took place on 19 December 2017.</p> <p>The negotiations covering the trade and trade related chapters started in Kyrgyzstan on 28 February and 1 March.</p>	The 4 <sup>th</sup> round of negotiations of the Trade Part of the new agreement with Kyrgyzstan took place in Bishkek on 26-28 June 2018. The next round is tentatively planned on 23-25 October 2018.
<b>UZBEKISTAN</b>	Preparation of Directives for negotiation of a new Agreement. College adoption foreseen in spring 2018		

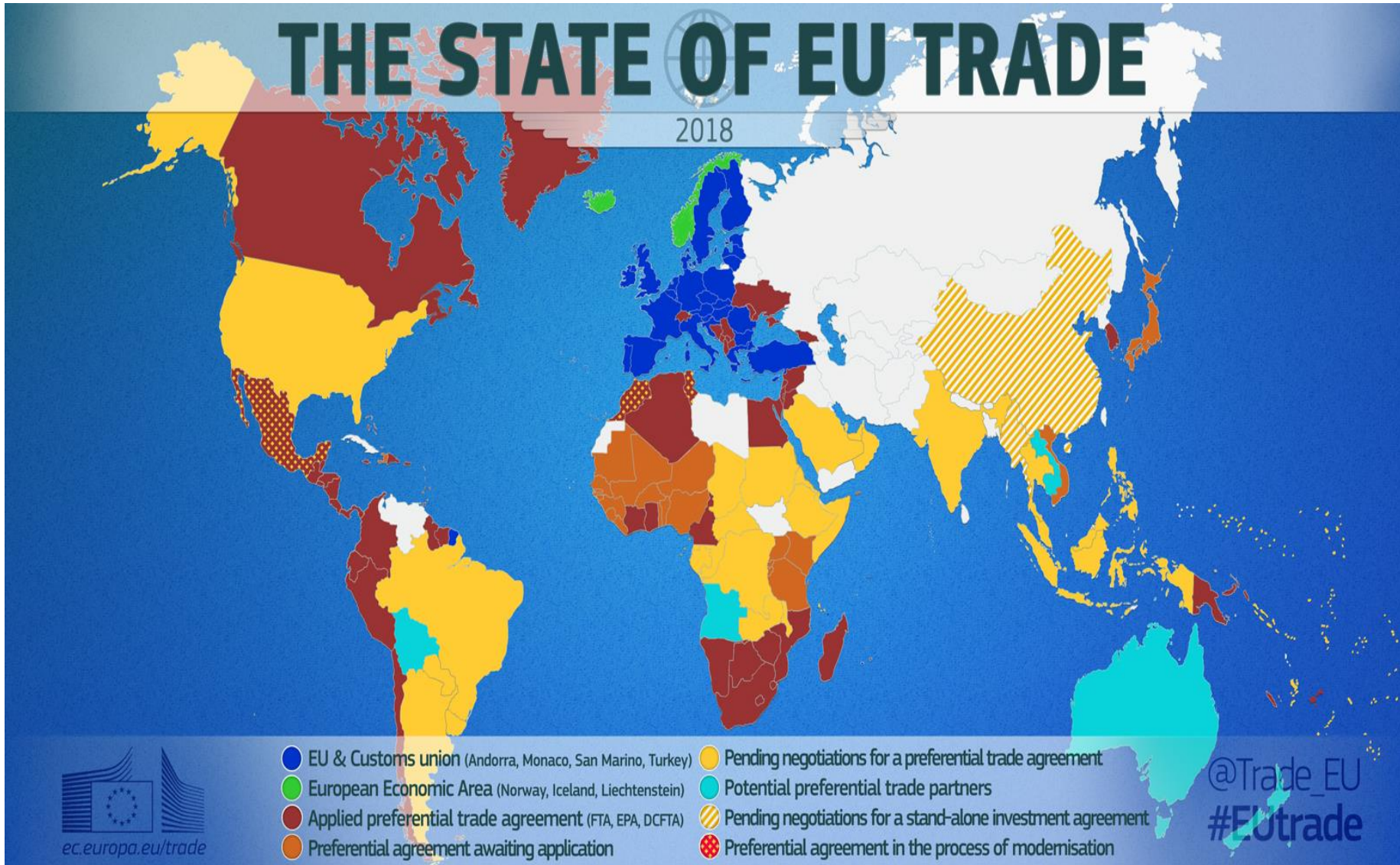
<b>CHINA – Investment</b>	<p>The Council authorised the Commission to initiate negotiations for a comprehensive EU-China investment agreement on 18 October 2013.</p> <p>The mandate to launch negotiations on a new Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with China was approved by the Council in December 2005.</p>	<p>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 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>In 2016 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>The 16<sup>th</sup> round of negotiations took place in Brussels the week of 12 December 2017.</p> <p>Separate negotiations with China for an upgrade of the</p>	The 18 <sup>th</sup> round of negotiations took place in Brussels from 12 to 13 July 2018.
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		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.	
<b>Services (TiSA)</b>	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>The talks started formally in March 2013. To date, 23 WTO members (including EU representing its 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. 21 negotiation rounds took place..</p> <p>Concluding TiSA has always been one of the priorities for the EU in the area of services. Negotiations are however paused since the US Presidential elections in November 2016, pending clarity in the US trade policy.</p>	The talks were put on hold late autumn 2016. Next steps to be determined.
<b>Green Goods</b>		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 remove barriers to trade in environmental or "green" goods that are crucial for environmental protection and climate change mitigation. The next, 18 <sup>th</sup> round took place in November and was followed by a Ministerial meeting in December 2016. Despite efforts, the deal could not yet be reached. <a href="#">Read more.</a>	Further steps to be determined.
<b>TRADE IN AGRI-FOOD AND FISHERIES PRODUCTS with EEA/EFTA COUNTRIES</b>		<p>European Economic Area (EEA): negotiations on further liberalisation for agricultural and fisheries are part of the EEA agreement.</p> <p>Norway and Iceland: negotiations of fish quotas took place between January 2014 and July 2015 and were finalised on 17 July 2015.</p> <p>Iceland: negotiations 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>Norway: negotiations on geographic indications started in</p>	Formalise agreement with Norway on liberalisation of agricultural products.

		<p>2013 and are now on hold. Negotiations on liberalisation of agricultural products, which started in 2015, were concluded at negotiator's level in April 2017.</p> <p>Switzerland: negotiations on further liberalisation of agricultural products started in 2008 and are on hold since 2009.</p>	
<p><b>ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS WITH ANDORRA, MONACO AND SAN MARINO</b></p>		<p>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).</p>	<p>The next session will take place in September/October 2018.</p>

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