The strategic benefits of CETA
Working together to help shape globalisation

CETA has a strong strategic dimension. It allows us in the EU to deepen our close relationship with Canada, take a strong stand for open trade, and work to shape global trade rules in line with our shared values.

Building an even closer relationship

The EU and Canada already have close trade ties. CETA will help us bind our economies even more closely together. In so doing it will create opportunities for companies on both sides of the Atlantic.

Taking a strong stand for open trade

Open trade, which CETA promotes, helps us in the EU to reap the benefits of globalisation. It:
• allows us to tap into new markets, creating growth and higher-paying jobs
• helps our companies compete by getting the inputs they need
• helps us shape the rules of global trade to make it sustainable and fair.

865,000
Number of EU jobs tied to EU exports to Canada

221,000
Number of EU workers employed by Canadian firms in the EU

For these reasons, the EU and Canada believe that now is the time to build bridges, not walls. We can only address the challenges our societies face by keeping trade open – not through protectionism. We need more cooperation, not less.

CETA sends a signal to the rest of the world that two developed economies are committed to open trade – a signal echoed by the EU’s agreements with South Korea and Japan.
Working together to shape globalisation

We in the EU need to work with like-minded partners. And Canada is one of the EU’s closest partners, with many similar values.

For example, we both:
- are established democracies
- have high product standards
- apply some of the highest labour and environmental standards in the world
- ensure exemplary consumer protection
- share similar ideas about the rules needed to protect our societies.

We face many challenges with a global dimension, such as:
- protecting the environment
- tackling climate change
- securing access to stable energy supplies
- ensuring regional stability.

To address these challenges and shape globalisation for everyone’s benefit, we agree on the need to build on our long history of working together and our shared values – for example, by ensuring that trade between us promotes environmental protection and labour rights.