



EU TRADE POLICY DAY

In defence of fair and open trade
– RISING TO THE CHALLENGES, TACKLING THE THREATS

BRUSSELS
27/11/2018

CHARLEMAGNE BUILDING
RUE DE LA LOI, 170
B-1049 BRUSSELS
BELGIUM

#EUtrade



PROGRAMME

European Trade Policy Day 2018

***In defence of fair and open trade
– Rising to the challenges, tackling the threats***

27 November 2018

*European Commission
Charlemagne Building
Rue de la Loi 170 Wetstraat
Bruxelles/Brussel
Belgique/België*

08:00-09:00 Doors open

Welcome coffee

09:00-09:30 Opening address

Welcome

Jean-Luc DEMARTY – Director-General, DG Trade, European Commission

Opening session

Cecilia MALMSTRÖM – EU Commissioner for Trade

In conversation with **Alan BEATTIE** – European Editorial Writer, The Financial Times, Brussels – on achieving trade for all and the challenges that lie ahead.

09:30-11:00 Plenary panel

EU Trade Policy – The Facts and the Challenges Ahead

As we approach the 2020s, the volume of global trade is greater than ever before and trade-driven growth continues to lift millions out of poverty. EU trade policy has been one of the Union's most successful. Yet trade policy makers face a range of challenges. While new technologies promise to transform trade, the post-1945 multilateral trading system is being questioned as never before: protectionism is raising its head and the benefits of open trade are increasingly being called into question.

How can Europe's policy-makers best tackle these challenges? How far will the EU be able to turn these challenges into opportunities? To what extent will the EU be able to shape the multilateral trading system in line with its values-based trade policy?

Moderator: **Hendrick KAFSACK** – Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Speakers:

Cecilia MALMSTRÖM – EU Commissioner for Trade

Maria REYES MAROTO – Spanish Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism

Karl BRAUNER – Deputy Director General, World Trade Organization

Bernd LANGE MEP – Socialists and Democrats; Chair, International Trade Committee, European Parliament

11:00-11:25 Coffee break

11:25-11:40 Your Voice on Trade – an interactive survey

Chad P. BOWN – Senior Fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics

Trade, Sustainable Development and Values – finding the balance

Open trade is arguably the best tool for delivering growth, jobs and development. Yet there are concerns that the benefits are unevenly spread or that development has not always been sustainable. The EU's values-based trade policy puts sustainable development centre stage, anchoring it in the EU's trade agreements with developed and developing countries alike.

To what extent is the EU striking the right balance between getting the right trade deals and supporting sustainable development? How well do EUROMED and the EU's Economic Partnership Agreements with Africa score against alternative models for using trade for development? Does the EU shape the right instruments and incentives to ensure our values agenda delivers meaningful results for areas like climate change and labour rights?

Moderator: **Hanna NORBERG** – Trade Economist

Chad P. BOWN – Senior Fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics

Dr. Alaa E. EZZ – Secretary General, Confederation of Egyptian European Business Associations

Dr. Heather GRABBE – Director, Open Society, European Policy Institute

Heidi HAUTALA – Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance

13:00-14:30 **Lunch**

Foyers of the DI GASPERI, MANSHOLT and JENKINS rooms

14:30-14:45 **Your Replies on Trade – an interactive survey**

Chad P. BOWN – Senior Fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics

1. Trade's multilateral system at a crossroads – challenges to rules-based commerce and enforcement

The post-1945 framework for open rules-based trade rules faces multiple threats. Implementing and enforcing rules set out in bilateral deals also presents its own challenges.

How ready or able is the EU to take on the mantle of global leadership in the sphere of trade? Which fora are going to be the most relevant for enforcing rules and upholding a rules-based system? Will different policy models compete to re-shape the trade system? Is flexible multilateralism the way forward?

Moderator: **Elvire FABRY** – Senior Research Fellow, Jacques Delors Institute

Speakers:

Claudia SCHMUCKER – Head of Program, Globalization and World Economy Program, German Council on Foreign Relations

James BACCHUS – Professor of Global Affairs and Director of the Center for Global Economic and Environmental Opportunity at the University of Central Florida

Dr. Galina KOLEV – Head of Research Group Macroeconomic Analysis and Forecast, German Economic Institute

Denis REDONNET – Director: WTO, Legal Affairs and Trade in Goods, Directorate General for Trade, European Commission

2. Technology – the great disruptor and what it means for trade and trade policy

The changes brought about by the information revolution have only just begun: blockchain technology, 3D printing, digital data flows and the servification of manufacturing are already reshaping trade. Artificial intelligence and hyperautomation will further transform both trade and the world of work.

How can trade policy keep pace with the challenges of the information revolution? How can the EU remain competitive while ensuring that workers benefit from technological change? How will technological change transform trade and value chains?

Moderator: **Aminda LEIGH** – Founder, AMROS Media Solutions

Speakers:

Dr Carl Benedikt FREY – Co-Director, Oxford Martin Programme on Technology and Employment, University of Oxford

Barbara BELVISI – Cofounder at Hardware Club

Vladimir SUCHA – Director General, Joint Research Centre

Sam LOWE – Senior Research Fellow, Centre for European Reform

Tanja BUZEK - Liaison Office ver.di, United Services Union

3. Speaking up for open trade – standing up to the challenges of antiglobalisation, nationalism and fake news

In recent years, open trade has lifted more people out of poverty than at any time in our history. Yet open trade faces numerous challenges, often being blamed for problems based elsewhere or the general challenge of globalisation. As globalisation has created the need for trade policy agenda to extend into areas, such as domestic regulations and standards, this has fuelled the perception that trade agreements bring more threats than benefits, that where benefits exist they are not evenly shared and that governments are not doing what they should to stand up for the losers in global trade. Nationalism, social media and fake news threaten to magnify these perceptions.

Faced with this toxic mix, how can policy-makers best make the case for open trade to the citizens and voters of Europe? To what extent will better enforcement of trade agreements help by ensuring that people actually experience the benefits of hard-won deals? How far will a 'Europe that protects' by levelling the playing field through fairer trade and reciprocity win support for open markets?

Moderator: Juliane VON REPERT-BISMARCK – Founder & Director at Lie Detectors

Speakers:

Swati DHINGRA – Centre for Economic Performance, London School of Economics

Klaus MÜLLER – Executive Director, General Federation of German Consumer Organisations

Sorin MOISĂ MEP – European Peoples Party

Philippe MARTIN – Head of the Department of Economics, Sciences Po

16:15-16:30 Closing plenary session

Concluding remarks

Jean-Luc DEMARTY – Director-General, DG Trade, European Commission

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