



# Management Plan 2018

DG TRADE

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## INTRODUCTION

Trade is a key component of the EU's strategy for jobs, growth and investment. The EU is the largest exporter and importer of goods and services in the world and is deeply embedded in global value chains. Small and medium-sized businesses play an important role with over 600,000 of them accounting for one third of total EU exports. EU exports provide jobs for 31 million Europeans, six million of them in small and medium-sized businesses. Overall, 1 in 7 jobs in the EU depends on exports.

EU trade policy aims to ensure an open international trading system based on rules and values. This will provide access to new markets for EU exports, while also helping to ensure EU firms' access to raw materials, components and services. This is vital in today's world of global value chains, where the value of most finished goods is created across several countries.

Trade and investment figures highly on the political agenda as stressed by President Juncker in his 2017 State of the Union address, where he stated that *"Firstly, I want us to strengthen our European trade agenda"*. He further underlined that *"Trade is about jobs, creating new opportunities for Europe's businesses big and small"*.

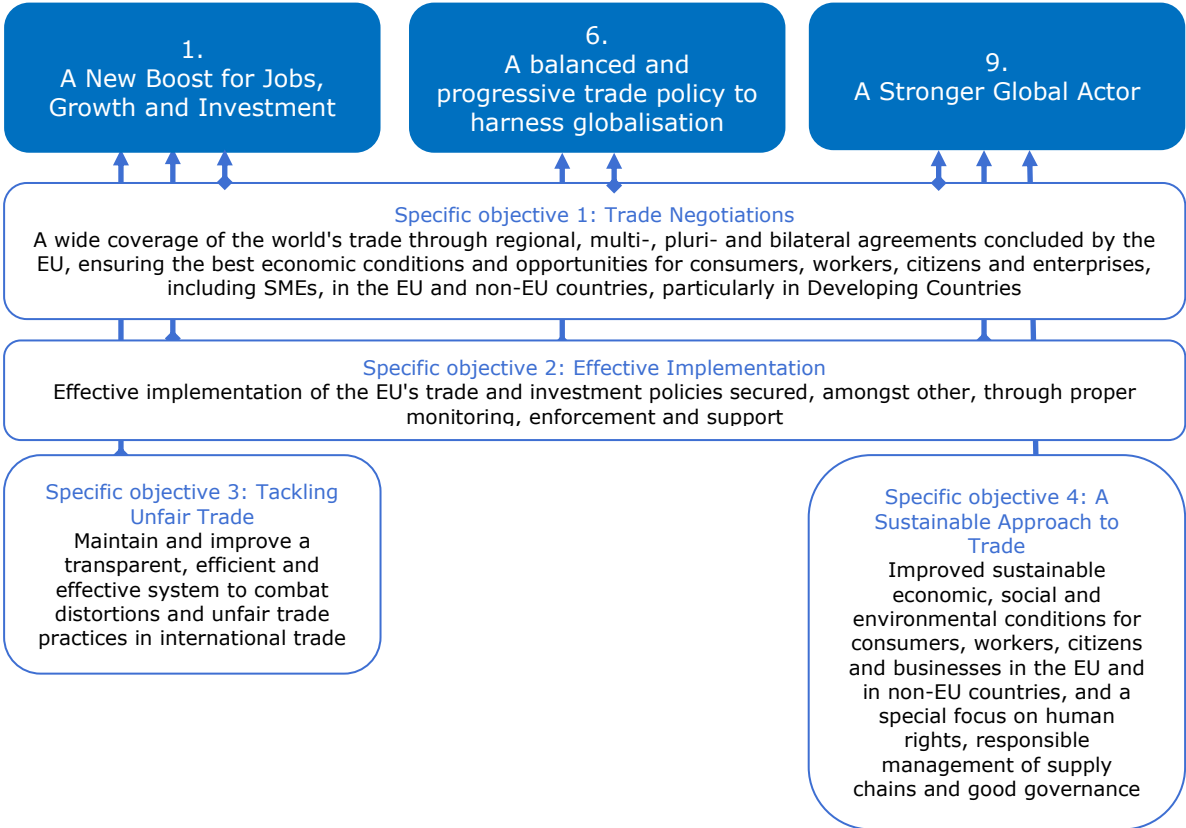
President Juncker also made clear that we, the EU *"are not naïve free traders"*, and that *"Europe must always defend its strategic interests"*.

As part of the State of the Union, the Commission presented a package of trade and investment measures. A trade package that responds to current opportunities and the challenges the EU faces while furthering its essential interests and keeps the EU at the forefront of efforts to craft an ever more progressive trade policy including promoting EU values, setting global rules, in short shaping globalisation.

The work programme of the Commission for the year 2018 also notes that *"As the largest trading power in the world, Europe depends on open and fair trade with partners from around the world"*. It equally states that *"We aim to deliver a progressive and ambitious trade agenda, striking a balance between openness and reciprocity and enforcement of social and environmental standards"*. It commits DG Trade to drive that policy agenda forward by continuing to implement the Trade for All strategy throughout 2018, which aim to ensure a transparent, effective and value-based trade agenda.

This management plan sets out how DG Trade will continue to pursue this ambitious agenda. Doing so will mean taking account of the intense public debate on trade and investment policy. The Commission has therefore decided to create an advisory group on EU trade agreements. A group which will allow the Commission to engage with representative organisations with expertise in economic, social, ethical and/or environmental aspects in its implementation of the EU's trade policy. DG Trade accordingly needs to advance steadily on the wide range of ongoing negotiations; see that those which are concluded are put in to practice as quickly as possible and ensure that agreements already in place are implemented to the full, providing benefits to our citizens.

As set out in its Strategic Plan 2016-2020, DG Trade pursues its DG specific objectives in the framework of three of the Commission's general objectives. These specific objectives, together with their link to the general objectives are set out in the figure below. Our policy actions will also be aimed at achieving the objectives set out in the trade and investment policy strategy Communication "Trade for All", adopted by the College of Commissioners on 14 October 2015<sup>1</sup> as well as the Communication on "A Balanced and Progressive Trade Policy to Harness Globalisation" adopted on 14 September 2017 following the announcement of Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker in the State of the Union speech<sup>2</sup>.



1 COM(2015)497

<sup>2</sup> COM(2017)492

In order to achieve its specific objectives, DG Trade will actively seek to produce a number of key deliverables in 2018.

## PART 1. MAIN OUTPUTS FOR THE YEAR

### Specific objective 1: Trade Negotiations

**A wide coverage of the world's trade through regional, multi-, pluri- and bilateral agreements concluded by the EU ensuring the best economic conditions and opportunities for consumers, workers, citizens and enterprises, including SMEs, in the EU and non-EU countries, particularly in Developing Countries**

#### *The multilateral and plurilateral agenda*

2018 will see the continuous effort by the EU to support the multilateral trading system, the WTO. Despite the fact that the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference in Buenos Aires in December 2017 failed to reach any substantive outcome, DG Trade on behalf of the EU will follow-up on a work programme on fisheries subsidies and continue work on the many issues under negotiation. Overall progress and prospects for future work in the WTO will be reviewed by Ministers in the margins of the World Economic Forum in Davos in January 2018 and the OECD Ministerial meeting in Paris in June 2018.

With the expansion of the **Information Technology Agreement (ITA)** on tariffs finalised, the focus should be on encouraging other WTO members to join the ITA-2, ensuring the effective implementation of the agreement by other parties and the negotiation of disciplines on non-tariff barriers (NTBs). DG Trade will continue working with a small group of like-minded ITA Members to obtain the necessary support to make a proposal on NTB disciplines, notably on conformity assessment procedures, to the WTO ITA Committee.

DG Trade will continue working towards gathering enough support among current parties and potential new participants for the launching of the **5<sup>th</sup> review of the Pharma arrangement** so as to incorporate new active ingredients in an arrangement which provides for their duty-free treatment. So far, four reviews to the agreement have been concluded.

In terms of plurilateral sectoral negotiations, DG Trade will aim at resuming negotiations for the **Environmental Goods Agreement (EGA)** when conditions allow. The EGA negotiations started in July 2014. In December 2016, when the EGA negotiations stalled, they involved 17 members of the World Trade Organization (WTO), including the EU<sup>3</sup>. The aim of the EGA is to remove barriers to trade in environmental or "green" goods that are crucial for environmental protection and climate change mitigation. The Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) for these negotiations was finalised in 2016<sup>4</sup>. It analysed the potential economic, social and environmental impacts of the negotiations in order to help us get a better policy mix and coherence between the EU's objectives of trade liberalisation and sustainable development.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1116>

<sup>4</sup> <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/html/154867.htm>

Furthermore, the Commission adopted on 13 September 2017 the recommendation to open negotiations to set up a **multilateral investment court**. This court would replace the Investment Court System (ICS) currently foreseen in the EU's bilateral agreements and the Investor-State Dispute Settlement arrangements that exist in more than 3000 current bilateral investment treaties which our Member States are party. This will involve continuing exploratory discussions with non EU Member States, particularly in UNCITRAL, with a view to start negotiations around mid-2018.

When the negotiations for a **Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA)**<sup>5</sup> came to a standstill in 2016, they involved 23 members of the World Trade Organization (WTO), including the EU, which together account for 70% of world trade in services. While DG Trade will explore any scope to resume negotiations, particularly the current US administration's agenda is not favourable for bridging differences that had already appeared in the negotiations towards the end of 2016. A resumption of negotiations may be difficult in the short to medium term and will also depend on the political will of the EU's negotiation partners. TiSA is based on the WTO's General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), which involves all WTO members. The key provisions of the GATS – scope, definitions, market access, national treatment and exemptions – are also found in TiSA. It aims at opening up markets and improving rules in areas such as licensing, financial services, telecoms, e-commerce, maritime transport, and professionals moving abroad temporarily to provide services.

#### *Finalising concluded bilateral and regional negotiations*

On the bilateral and regional front, in 2015 the EU and **Vietnam** reached a political conclusion to the negotiations for a comprehensive free trade and investment agreement. A political conclusion was also reached for an agreement with **Singapore**<sup>6</sup> at the end of 2014. Following the Opinion 2/15 of the European Court of Justice (ECJ) on the division of competences between the EU and its Member States in the Singapore FTA, the Commission started a reflection process with Member States on the future architecture of trade and investment agreements with third countries, including on the need to negotiate and propose for signature and conclusion two separate agreements, i.e. a free trade agreement covering areas where the EU has exclusive competence according to the Treaty of the Functioning of the Union and an investment protection agreement covering areas where the EU shares competences with the EU Member States in some areas. Taking account of this process, the Commission will submit proposals for signing and concluding the agreements with Singapore and Vietnam in early 2018.

The negotiations for an Economic Partnership Agreement with **Japan**<sup>7</sup> were finalised on 8 December, when Commissioner Malmström and the Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono announced the successful conclusion of the final discussions.. In 2018 the text of the agreement will be subject to legal scrubbing and subsequently translated. The Commission will then propose to the Council to conclude and sign the agreement. This is expected to happen by mid-2018.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/tisa/>

<sup>6</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/singapore/>

<sup>7</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/eu-japan-economic-partnership-agreement/ /](http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/eu-japan-economic-partnership-agreement/)

As for the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) with African countries, based on the Commission proposal in December 2014, DG Trade expects that countries and regions that have not yet signed will be able to do so in the near future. This will enable provisional application of the regional EPA in 16 countries of the **West Africa** region. Ivory Coast and Ghana have signed and ratified their interim EPAs. Ivory Coast began applying this stepping stone EPA in September 2016 and Ghana in December 2016. A Commission proposal for signature and provisional application, and conclusion of the full EPA with five countries of the **East African Community** (EAC)

was adopted by the Council in June 2016. All EU Member States, and Kenya and Rwanda signed the Agreement. Signatures of the other three African countries are needed before provisional application can start.

*Today we agreed in principle on an Economic Partnership Agreement, the impact of which goes far beyond our shores. Through this agreement, the EU and Japan uphold their shared values and commit to the highest standards in areas such as labour, safety, environmental or consumer protection. Working towards mutual adequacy decisions, we also make a strong commitment to uphold the fundamental right of data protection. Together, we are sending a strong message to the world that we stand for open and fair trade. As far as we are concerned, there is no protection in protectionism. Only by working together will we be able to set ambitious global standards*

President Juncker at the 24<sup>th</sup> EU-Japan summit

### ***On-going bilateral and regional negotiations***

Following the successful resumption of negotiations with four countries of the South American sub-regional trading bloc **Mercosur**<sup>8</sup> on the trade part in the Association Agreement between the two parties, four rounds have taken place in 2017. Both parties are optimistic that a deal is within reach in early 2018, following which the text will be legally reviewed and translated. As part of the preparatory process for any new trade agreement, an SIA is being carried out.

Following the adoption by the Council of negotiation directives in early 2016, the EU has already had seven negotiation rounds with **Mexico**<sup>9</sup>. The negotiations are aimed at modernising the existing trade pillar of the 2000 EU-Mexico Global Agreement, which does not address some of the important trade and investment issues of today. In order to assess the agreement's potential impact, DG Trade has used an independent contractor to carry out an SIA. Both parties are committed to come to a political agreement in early 2018. The usual process of legal review of translation will also be carried out for this agreement.

Based on the 2007 negotiating directives for FTAs with the Association of South East Asian Nations – **ASEAN** – and its Member States, in 2016 negotiations were launched with the **Philippines**<sup>10</sup> and **Indonesia**<sup>11</sup> (see above on the negotiations with Singapore

<sup>8</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/regions/mercosur/>

<sup>9</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/mexico/>

<sup>10</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/philippines/>

and Vietnam). Two rounds have taken place so far with the Philippines, whereas EU negotiators have met three times with their Indonesian counterparts. An SIA for the negotiations with both countries is being done for these negotiations, a final report being due by the end of 2018. The Commission is also looking forward to resuming negotiations for trade and investment agreements with Malaysia and Thailand once the conditions are right.

In the EU's immediate neighbourhood, negotiations are expected to resume their normal pace with **Tunisia**<sup>12</sup> for a Deep and Comprehensive FTA (DCFTA). **Morocco**, however, has suspended negotiations for a DCFTA pending the outcome of in-depth studies and domestic consultations, and has further limited contacts with the EU following the European Court of Justice ruling on the affiliation of Western Sahara. Negotiations to address the question of goods originating in Western Sahara will continue with a view to resume talks for a free trade deal. We will also work with other partners in the Southern Mediterranean region to build on the existing network of FTAs.

DG Trade will further collaborate with the European External Action Service (EEAS) on working towards finalising a new comprehensive agreement with **Azerbaijan**<sup>13</sup> and **Kyrgyzstan**<sup>14</sup>, enhancing our bilateral relations, including trade. In addition, work towards finalising a new framework agreement with Andorra, San Marino and Monaco, ensuring their integration in the single market and their alignment with the EU's trade policy will be done.

Negotiations with the **United States** on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) were stopped until further notice at the end of 2016. Both sides need to clarify if there is a sufficient level of shared ambition and common ground before deciding whether and how to proceed with new negotiations.

A number of factors have affected TTIP's prospects. There were already significant differences of view at the end of the Obama Administration, both on market access and new rules. It was not clear how these could be overcome. The new US Administration's agenda of economic nationalism, reflected in a series of policy initiatives, has further reduced the overlap between our policies. Finally, the stance of the new Administration with regard to climate change, and in particular the intention to withdraw from the Paris agreement, is another complicating factor, since it widens the gap with regard to the EU's goal of setting high environmental standards in trade agreements in order to support sustainability.

However, the logic for a further deepening of the transatlantic trade and investment relationship remains compelling. The Transatlantic relationship remains a central artery of the world economy and EU-US collaboration is essential for the stability of trade flows and the multilateral trading system. In the meantime, work will continue on a positive economic agenda with the US.

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<sup>11</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/indonesia/>

<sup>12</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/tunisia/>

<sup>13</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/azerbaijan/>

<sup>14</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/kyrgyzstan/>



Key outstanding issues in relation to the EU's trade and investment negotiations with **India**<sup>15</sup> include improved market access for certain goods and services, government procurement, geographical indications, sound investment protection rules, and sustainable development. An SIA for these negotiations is also planned, in the event that negotiations resume in 2018.

As to the deepening of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the EU and the Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) sub-region is concerned, key issues on which negotiations may be undertaken under the rendez-vous clauses include SPS, TBT, customs and trade facilitation as well as trade and sustainable development, services, public procurement and upgrading of the dispute settlement mechanism and institutional bodies and monitoring provisions. The agreement is currently applied by Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and Zimbabwe and soon by Comoros who signed the agreement in 2017. An evaluation of the current EPA with ESA will be performed, that will be used as a basis for the SIA which will be launched for the negotiations.

Talks on agreements on investment with **China**<sup>16</sup> and **Myanmar**<sup>17</sup> are to continue. The current target date to conclude negotiations with Myanmar is the end of 2018.

### *The proposal of new bilateral negotiations*

On 21 December 2016 the Commission recommended to the Council starting negotiations with **Turkey**<sup>18</sup> to enhance EU-Turkey bilateral trade relations and to modernise the Customs Union between us.

Furthermore, recommendations were sent from the Commission to the Council to modernise its existing 2003 FTA with **Chile** on 24 May 2017. Following the adoption of the Council Decision on 13 November and the launch of negotiations on 16 November 2017, these negotiations will continue in 2018.

Finally on 13 September 2017, the Commission recommended to the Council that the EU launch new FTA negotiations with **Australia**<sup>19</sup> and **New Zealand**<sup>20</sup>.

Negotiations will start once the Council adopts the negotiating directives for the above trade deals. DG

*"The talks that we are now launching aim to put in place a modern trade agreement of the highest calibre, covering all issues - including those that reflect shared values such as sustainable development, helping small and medium-sized companies, and efforts against corruption. And for the first time, a trade deal of ours will include common goals on the key role of women in trade".*  
Commissioner Malmström at the occasion of the launch of negotiations with Chile

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<sup>15</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/india/>

<sup>16</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/china/>

<sup>17</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/myanmar/>

<sup>18</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/turkey/>

<sup>19</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/australia/>

<sup>20</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/new-zealand/>

Trade also plans an SIA for these agreements.

The Commission will continue working towards a scoping exercise in view of possible investment negotiations with Hong Kong, as well as with the separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu

As set out in "Trade for All" we will pay special attention to ensuring our negotiations are transparent, for instance by making publicly available reports of negotiating rounds, EU proposals for negotiating texts as well as explanatory material. As announced by President Juncker in the State of the European Union speech of 13 September 2017, the Commission will from now on, starting with Australia and New Zealand, publish all its recommendations for negotiating directives for trade agreements. We will also continue inviting the Council to publish FTA negotiating directives after their adoption. Furthermore, the "Trade for All" Communication sets out the objectives in terms of the substantive scope of all future EU FTAs. In the addition to the existing Civil Society Dialogue organised by DG Trade, the Commission will set up an expert group which shall provide expert advice from representative organisations with expertise in economic, social, ethical and/or environmental aspects in order to assist the Commission in its negotiations and in the implementation of finalised agreements.

An overview of all on-going bilateral negotiations can be found in annex 1.

## Specific objective 2: Effective implementation

### Effective implementation of the EU's trade and investment policies secured, amongst other, through proper monitoring, enforcement and support

The EU currently has 40 bilateral/bi-regional trade agreements in place (including the ones under provisional application), which cover over 75 partners. With still more agreements to enter into force in 2018 or 2019, we will strengthen the focus on maximising the benefits of our trade instruments through proper implementation and enforcement of our trade and investment rights and building on the findings of the evaluation of FTAs already in place. As far as FTAs are concerned, the 'Trade for All' Communication announced that the Commission will enhance its partnership with Member States, the European Parliament and stakeholders for implementing the EU's trade agreements. In 2018 we will continue to work on our outreach to these actors and focus, among other things, on awareness-raising, regular structured exchanges on FTA related activities, on market access and on the sustainable development side, and SME internationalisation. As regards sustainable development, the Commission will step up actions for effective implementation and enforcement of the Trade and Sustainable Development chapters in EU FTAs, as mentioned under the Specific objective 4. With regard to trade promotion activities, we encourage Member States to strengthen their actions, share best practice and prioritise countries where we have recently concluded agreements or anticipate doing so in the next 12 to 18 months.

As part of this, the Commission will continue to report regularly on trade barriers and protectionist trends. The new comprehensive report on the implementation of Free Trade Agreements will also be published on a regular basis. This report is complementary to the individual reports that are produced on an annual basis for the most recent trade agreements, which show the effects of these agreements on trade.

Two important measures DG Trade has taken internally are the creation of an internal FTA coordination and coherence group and establishing a role of Coherence Officer for Implementation. Both are responsible for overseeing the implementation of the EU's trade agreements and ensuring a more effective and coherent approach to implementation.

More specifically, in relation to individual bilateral agreements, DG Trade monitors the implementation of the various agreements that have entered into force or are provisionally applied. Most recently, the EU-**Canada** Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) entered into provisional application on 21 September 2017. CETA's governance structure will now be put in place, including a range of committees and working groups that will among other monitor how CETA is implemented. The EU has already requested Canada to jointly initiate an early review of the Trade and Sustainable Development chapter in the Agreement, as committed to in the Joint Interpretative Instrument. Additional focus will now be placed on setting up the structured dialogue with civil society (through Domestic Advisory Groups and the Civil Society Dialogue), on monitoring the implementation of CETA via sector-specific and market barriers analyses and on promoting CETA with EU businesses and stakeholders.

DG Trade will maintain focus on the **South Korea** FTA<sup>21</sup> through the management of six specialised committees, seven working groups and the annual FTA Trade Committee.

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<sup>21</sup> The EU-Korea FTA has been provisionally applied since July 2011, and was amended in 2014 to include Croatia as a party to the FTA with effect from 1 July 2013.

The ex-post evaluation of the EU-South Korea FTA after 5 years of operation is expected to be published in early 2018. The results of the evaluation will be used to improve the implementation of the FTA.

Within Latin America<sup>22</sup>, we will continue pursuing the effective implementation of the **Colombia/Peru/Ecuador**<sup>23</sup> and **Central America** Agreements<sup>24</sup> through the management of the specialised committees and the annual Trade Committee/Association Council. Substantive work is carried out in EU Delegations in the countries concerned and Commission headquarters in Brussels will continue to monitor the implementation of specific issues. They will also carry out activities in the EU and the partner countries for disseminating information about the agreements and will plan joint activities for supporting implementation of the agreements. The Trade agreement with Colombia and Peru will be subject to an ex-post evaluation starting in 2018, with the view to be finalised in 2019.

We shall also continue to monitor the implementation of the DCFTAs with **Ukraine, Georgia** and **Moldova**. For each DCFTA the overarching Association Agreements with these countries provide an Association Committee covering trade issues and four specialised sub-committees. The results of the monitoring will be included in the aforementioned general report on FTA implementation.

At the fifth Eastern Partnership summit in Brussels on 24 November 2017, **Armenia** and the EU signed a new Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement. This agreement replaces the old Partnership and Cooperation Agreement from 1999 and includes trade related provisions.

With the **Euromed countries** efforts are ongoing to improve the efficiency of Sub-Committees under the Association Agreement and ensure annual Trade Sub-Committee meetings effectively tackle all trade-related issues. DG Trade will continue to press these partners to remove trade-related barriers, while also aiming to assist them taking better advantage of the existing preferential market access, in particular through trade-related assistance and capacity building.

An evaluation of the trade pillar of six EU Association Agreements with Euromed countries (Tunisia, Morocco, Egypt, Jordan, Algeria and Lebanon) will start in the course of 2018 and be finalised by end 2019. This exercise will help us to better understand the strengths and weaknesses of these first generation agreements and provide useful guidance on improving the effectiveness of their implementation as well as feed into future DCFTAs with partner countries in the region.

Implementation work on **Economic Partnership Agreements** (EPAs) with African, Caribbean and Pacific countries (ACPs) has intensified in 2017, following several recent ratifications. In 2016, five countries of the South African Development Community (**SADC**) started provisional application of the EPA with the EU, and Mozambique ratified it in April 2017 (the process of provisional application is ongoing). Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana in West Africa also started to implement their EPAs in 2016. Monitoring concerns all relevant aspects, including compliance with EPA commitments and the impact on

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<sup>22</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/regions/andean-community/>

<sup>23</sup> Ecuador acceded to the Colombia/Peru agreement on 1 January 2017

<sup>24</sup> The EU-Colombia/Peru FTA and EU-Central America DCFTA have been provisionally applied since 2013.

sustainable development. Annual meetings of the joint EPA bodies for EPAs with the Caribbean, Eastern and Southern Africa EPA-group, SADC, Pacific countries, Cameroon in Central Africa, as well as Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana will be scheduled for 2018. In 2017, Samoa and Solomon Islands notified their intention to accede into the EU-Pacific EPA. The accession procedure will take place mostly in 2018. The EPA with Caribbean countries will be subject to an ex-post evaluation starting in 2018, with the view to be finalised in 2019.

DG Trade on behalf of the Commission will continue to implement the EU strategy on **China** adopted in June 2016<sup>25</sup>. There will be a particular focus on bilateral strategic discussions on trade and investment issues covering China's agenda for economic reforms; overcapacity concerns (particularly on steel, export controls); level-playing field issues, such as subsidies; Chinese investments in the EU, and the investment negotiations; market access; and intellectual property rights. Implementation of the strategy also entails following plurilateral and multilateral discussions at the level of G7, G20, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the World Trade Organization on issues such as overcapacity and the International Working Group on export credits.

DG Trade will continue to remove trade barriers through our **Market Access Partnership** with Member States and industry, which every year creates additional export opportunities for EU companies worth billions of Euros – the magnitude of a medium-sized free trade agreement. In the wake of the rise in protectionism detected in the revamped Report on Trade and Investment Barriers, DG Trade is committed to reinforce the Partnership, with enhanced prioritisation of actions to remove barriers, strengthened coordination with stakeholders, and wider communication and outreach.

DG Trade's activities in this area also includes its work with the SPS Market Access Working Group on identifying and agreeing on a mid- to long term strategy to tackle SPS measures and the continued financial support to international standard setting organisations.

Furthermore, we will continue to enforce the EU's multilateral and bilateral rights and obligations through the World Trade Organization's (WTO) dispute settlement or through bilateral dispute settlement mechanisms if applicable. DG Trade also manages cases brought in investor-state dispute settlement mechanisms, i.e. the Energy Charter Treaty and under the Grandfathering Regulation<sup>26</sup>. We will continue to monitor how WTO members comply with their membership commitments, including those stemming from plurilateral agreements (notably ITA).

At the WTO Ministerial Conference in 2015, ministers agreed on a global trade deal to benefit developing countries in Africa and around the world by creating new rules regarding export competition in agriculture including getting rid of trade distorting export subsidies, disciplining the use of trade distorting export credits and clarifying rules applicable to agricultural State Trading Enterprises as well as to food aid. This agreement helps provide EU producers with a level playing field with regard to agricultural exports. As one of the first Members of the WTO, the EU proceeded with implementing the

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<sup>25</sup>[http://eeas.europa.eu/archives/docs/china/docs/joint\\_communication\\_to\\_the\\_european\\_parliament\\_and\\_the\\_council\\_-\\_elements\\_for\\_a\\_new\\_eu\\_strategy\\_on\\_china.pdf](http://eeas.europa.eu/archives/docs/china/docs/joint_communication_to_the_european_parliament_and_the_council_-_elements_for_a_new_eu_strategy_on_china.pdf)

<sup>26</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1219/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2012 establishing transitional arrangements for bilateral investment agreements between Member States and third countries

agreement by putting forward a revised goods schedule which reconfirmed the elimination of the EU's export subsidy entitlements. DG Trade on behalf of the EU will continue to monitor the situation and work with other WTO Members to ensure swift implementation of all aspects of the agreement by all WTO Members as well as exploring what further steps can be taken in order to further improve conditions as regards export competition.

In 2018, the Commission will take stock of where investment policy stands eight years after the Lisbon Treaty changes and outline the direction for an effective and forward-looking EU investment policy in the years to come. This stocktaking will be an opportunity to engage with stakeholders on international investment issues, to foster the debate on the future of EU investment policy and to shape a new consensus on the priorities that the EU investment policy should pursue. As a result the Commission will review the 2010 Communication "*Towards a comprehensive European international investment policy*".<sup>27</sup>

In order to make sure that the EU remains one of the world's most open investment regimes, and thereby a source of growth and jobs while protecting its essential interests, the Commission proposed on 13 September 2017 a new framework for screening of Foreign Direct Investment into the EU. It consists of a dedicated Communication outlining the strategic need for such a screening entitled "*Welcoming Foreign Direct Investment while Protecting Essential Interests*"<sup>28</sup> as well as a Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council establishing a framework for screening of foreign direct investments into the European Union<sup>29</sup>. In addition, a Staff Working Document was published, also providing information on FDI inflows, their implications and the potential risks they may pose for security and public order in the EU.

In the Communication, the Commission announced two complementary measures, one being the launch of an in-depth study. The study will address, in particular, FDI in strategic sectors or assets which may raise security or public order concerns. It will include data collection, analysis of trends, and assessment of the impact of such investments, including through case studies. Its results should feed into the decision-making process for the proposed Regulation. The second complementary measure announced is the setting up of a coordination group dedicated to inward foreign direct investment, including all issues within the scope of the proposed Regulation. The group will be chaired by the Commission and composed of representatives of Member States. DG Trade aims at holding the first meetings of this group in the first half of 2018.

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<sup>27</sup> COM(2010)343

<sup>28</sup> COM(2017) 494 final

<sup>29</sup> COM(2017) 487 final

### Specific objective 3: Tackling unfair trade

#### Maintain and improve a transparent, efficient and effective system to combat distortions and unfair trade practices in international trade

The 2013 Commission proposal on modernisation of the EU's Trade Defence Instruments<sup>30</sup> received new impetus following the steel crisis. Among other things, it would make it possible to impose provisional anti-dumping measures more quickly and would allow the EU not to apply the Lesser-Duty Rule where the exporting country distorts raw material prices, for instance by introducing export restrictions on them.

Following a Commission proposal<sup>31</sup> of November 2016, Council and European Parliament reached an agreement in October 2017 for a new method for calculating dumping on imports from countries where there are significant market distortions, in particular where the state has a pervasive influence on the economy. The purpose of this amendment to the basic anti-dumping and anti-subsidy Regulations is to make sure that Europe has trade defence instruments (TDIs) that are able to deal with current realities, notably overcapacities, in the international trading environment, while fully respecting the EU's international obligations in the legal framework of the World Trade Organization (WTO). The legislation entered into force on 20 December 2017.

*Let me say once and for all: we are not naïve free traders. Europe must always defend its strategic interests. This is why today we are proposing a new EU framework for investment screening. If a foreign, state-owned, company wants to purchase a European harbour, part of our energy infrastructure or a defence technology firm, this should only happen in transparency, with scrutiny and debate.'*

European Commission President  
Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the  
Union Address, 13 September 2017

*"Europe stands for open and fair trade, but as I have said time and again, we are not naïve free traders. That's why we have to make sure that, while upholding the multilateral, rules-based trade system, our legislation allows us to ensure that our companies operate on a level playing field. This is not about any country in particular, simply about making sure that we have the means to take action against unfair competition and the dumping of products in the EU market that leads to the destruction of jobs. Our words have to be followed by *decisive actions and this is the kind of action our companies and citizens expect from us. I commend the European Parliament and our governments for having lived up to these expectations.*"*

President Jean-Claude Juncker following the agreement in  
Strasbourg

The EU uses trade defence instruments to re-establish a competitive environment for EU industry when it is harmed by unfair imports.

DG Trade will continue to maintain and improve a transparent, efficient and effective system to combat distortions and unfair trade practices. We will continue to complete investigations, which are subject to the scrutiny of the European Court of Justice and the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body, within the mandatory deadlines and endeavour to

<sup>30</sup> COM(2013)192: [http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/november/tradoc\\_155079.pdf](http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/november/tradoc_155079.pdf)

<sup>31</sup> COM (2016)721: [http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/november/tradoc\\_155079.pdf](http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/november/tradoc_155079.pdf)

do so even sooner. DG Trade will make investigations more transparent and efficient by using a new web platform (TRON) for consulting files and communications with parties participating in the investigations.

DG Trade also actively participates in trade defence investigations by non-EU countries against EU Member States with the aim of minimising the cost for EU exporters.

As announced in the 'Trade for All' Communication, DG Trade, in consultation with other DGs, is currently analysing the feasibility of several possible measures for making trade defence proceedings more transparent. Some of these initiatives, such as granting access to the confidential file, would require changing the Basic Anti-dumping Regulation. In addition in order to further increase transparency, the Commission will start disclosing mission reports to verified companies, which does not require a change of the Basic Anti-dumping Regulation. Furthermore the new legislation for the calculation of dumping and the modernization file contain elements that will increase transparency. The Commission may also launch a public consultation on further elements to increase transparency.

In the current situation of overcapacity in the steel sector, a Global Forum on steel excess capacity was launched in Berlin on 16 December 2016 to implement the commitment undertaken by the G20 Leaders at Hangzhou and Hamburg summits in September 2016 and July 2017 respectively. In 2018 DG Trade will seek full implementation of the Forum's mandate to enhance transparency and develop concrete policy solutions that reduce steel excess capacity. DG Trade will continue its work to fight overcapacity in other sectors through all multilateral, plurilateral and bilateral channels to prevent their emergence, notably in the high-tech sectors.

In parallel, and in addition to this multilateral exercise, DG Trade will continue to push China to deliver on its bilateral commitment between the EU and China and to finalise the establishment of a bilateral platform on steel with similar objectives to those of the Global Forum.

DG Trade will intensify its efforts to deal with level-playing field issues such as subsidies and the role of State Owned Enterprises across all sectors, by working closely with other trading partners, as well as in the WTO, the OECD and the G7/G20.



## Specific objective 4: A sustainable approach to trade

### Improved sustainable economic, social and environmental conditions for consumers, workers, citizens and businesses in the EU and in non-EU countries and a special focus on human rights, responsible management of supply chains and good governance

As foreseen in the 'Trade for All' Communication, DG Trade will reinforce its agenda to promote sustainable development, human rights and good governance, in the spirit of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including by ensuring that FTA provisions related to these and the Generalised Scheme of Preferences<sup>32</sup> are implemented effectively.

The Commission will continue to negotiate ambitious provisions for promoting respect of labour rights and protection of the environment in line with the international commitments, and work with the FTAs partners fully and effectively to implement relevant provisions, thereby supporting decent work and the conservation and sustainable management of the environment. The Commission will pay particular attention to trade and climate by, inter alia continuing to engage in the debate at the international level, developing implementation actions where pertinent in EU FTAs.

The debate launched by the Commission on improving Trade and Sustainable Development (TSD) chapter implementation and enforcement<sup>33</sup> is expected to come to a conclusion during the first semester of 2018. In response to calls for stepping up efforts, concrete steps and actions can be expected such as through the enhanced partnership with a Member States on implementation.

Specific attention will continue to be paid in relation to TSD to compliance issues (including South Korea, Guatemala, El Salvador, Peru) and preparation of implementation in upcoming and new FTAs. The annual FTA implementation reports will provide a good opportunity to monitor overall progress on TSD implementation.

In addition, the Commission promotes effective participation of civil society in the monitoring of its trade agreements. To this aim, in 2018, the Commission will launch a 3M€ project to support civil society involvement in the implementation and monitoring of the existing EU trade and partnerships agreements. The project will have a duration of 36 months and will be funded through the Partnership Instrument.

The Commission will also pursue a better link between trade policy instruments (e.g. Generalised Scheme of Preferences, sustainable development chapters in FTAs) and cooperation with the aim of promoting labour rights and environmental protection, including actions on climate. Dedicated funding will be provided to the International

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<sup>32</sup> The EU's Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) is designed to help developing countries integrate in the international trade system by making it easier for them to export their products to the EU. This is done in the form of partly or fully reduced tariffs for their goods when entering the EU market. Through the additional export revenue which is generated, GSP fosters growth in their income and supports their development.

<sup>33</sup> On 11 July 2017, the Commission launched a debate on the enforcement and implementation of EU FTA's Trade and Sustainable Development (TSD) chapters. The basis for this debate is a non-paper prepared by the Commission and transmitted to the Member States and the European Parliament and made public (available on DG Trade website [http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2017/july/tradoc\\_155686.pdf](http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2017/july/tradoc_155686.pdf))

Labour Organization (ILO) for capacity building on labour rights project to relevant trading partners.

The EU is actively promoting due-diligence practices or responsible global value chains. For example, the EU adopted in 2014 the Non-Financial Disclosure Directive which requires companies with more than 500 employees to disclose information on policies, results and risks concerning environmental aspects, social and employee-related matters, respect for human rights, anti-corruption and bribery issues. We are now gaining experience as the related guidelines on its implementation are being adopted. When it comes to trade policy, the EU is negotiating dedicated Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)/Responsible Business Conduct (RBC) provisions in our trade and investment agreements and is working very closely with the OECD in developing sectoral due diligence guidelines. DG Trade's priority now is to focus on implementing these guidelines.

The Commission has developed capacity-building and outreach programmes to help developing countries address sustainability challenges. For example, the EU will finance a 9M€ pilot project through the Partnership Instrument on responsible supply chains with OECD and ILO designed to promote responsible business conduct approaches in key Asian trading partners (China, Japan, Myanmar, Vietnam, Thailand and the Philippines). This project will run over a period of 3 years.

In 2018, DG Trade will continue to operate the Generalised Scheme of Preferences arrangement, including – when necessary – changing the list of beneficiaries. Special focus will be placed on monitoring GSP+ beneficiaries' compliance with their obligations in order to ensure steady progress in the effective implementation of the relevant 27 international conventions.

In January 2018, the Commission will publish the second biennial GSP Report on the effects of the GSP during the period 2016-2017. Its accompanying staff working document will focus on the performance of the beneficiaries of the 'special incentive arrangement for sustainable development and good governance' (GSP+).

Regarding the mid-term evaluation of GSP, the Commission will produce a public Report to the EP and Council in the first quarter of 2018, based on the final report of the evaluation study. Preliminary results of the evaluation study indicated that the 2012 reform of the GSP Regulation is well on track to reach its objectives. EU imports from least developed countries, i.e. beneficiaries of the 'Everything but Arms' (EBA) arrangement, increased by around 40 % between 2011 and 2016, while the share of imports from developing countries benefiting from less generous trade preferences under the standard GSP arrangement decreased. EBA beneficiaries also diversified their exports. Initial results also demonstrate that GSP is a facilitator of adherence to fundamental labour and human rights standards.

The Commissions has therefore intensified the dialogue with some EBA countries to press for concrete actions to address serious shortcomings in respecting fundamental human and labour rights. In particular, following declining human and labour rights situations in Bangladesh and Cambodia, the Commission and EEAS have engaged more assertively with these two countries.

As foreseen in the 'Trade for All' Communication, DG Trade will reinforce its focus on the gender angle of trade inclusiveness. It will actively implement the actions foreseen in the declaration on trade and women's economic empowerment to be endorsed in the context of the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference. DG Trade will also develop gender specific provisions in the modernisation of the trade part of the EU-Chile Association Agreement. To improve the understanding of the impact of trade instruments on gender equality, DG Trade will launch the study on Women in Trade: Collecting data on women

entrepreneurship and female employment in exporting and importing firms in selected EU Member States.

The EU's foreign policy remains the primary instrument for the EU to promote human rights in third countries, through a broad range of tools, from bilateral Human Rights Dialogues to the adoption of political sanctions.

In 2018 we will work on actions, including trade-related actions under the Human Rights Action Plan 2015-19 with the aim to conclude all actions before its expiry, including: intensified dialogue on human rights with specific GSP beneficiaries, ensuring that relevant trade policy tools are appropriately used to contribute to address human rights issues in particular, in relation to child and forced prison labour (also in the setting of the Sustainable Development Goals), as well as to enhance the analysis and assessments of the impact of trade initiatives on human rights.

In the same spirit of promoting good governance, in cooperation with EU Member States and the European Parliament, the Commission will work on further defining its approach on how to better promote and contribute to the fight against corruption affecting trade in investment.

Well-functioning intellectual property (IP) systems are a key lever to promote investment in innovation and sustainable growth. DG Trade will continue to engage with key trading partners to cooperate towards an adequate and efficient protection and enforcement of IP rights. In 2018 we intend to hold IPR Dialogues and Working Groups with China, the US, Ukraine, Turkey, Korea and India. The Commission (DG Trade), in cooperation with the European Union Intellectual Property Office, is launching three IP technical cooperation programmes ("IP Key" 2017-2020) in China, in South East Asia and in Latin America; practical implementation will start in 2018. Following the publication of an updated report on the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights in third countries, DG Trade will set up, and publish in the first half of 2018, an IP Markets watch-list. The Watch-list will identify, on the basis of input from stakeholders, online and physical markets located outside the European Union that are reported to engage in, or facilitate, substantial IPR infringements, and in particular piracy and counterfeiting.

In the area of public procurement, DG Trade will continue to promote transparency, good governance and reciprocity with third countries, including through an appropriate EU instrument to ensure openness of foreign procurement markets for EU companies, goods and services (International Procurement Initiative).

In the current deteriorating security environment, it is also important that trade policy contribute to the preservation of international peace and security whilst ensuring the protection of human rights. Therefore, the Commission tabled in 2016 a recast proposal<sup>34</sup> of the Regulation on controlling exports of dual use items<sup>35</sup>. The purpose of the proposal is to strike a balance between ensuring a high level of security and adequate transparency, and maintaining the competitiveness of European companies and legitimate trade in dual-use items. DG Trade will monitor the legislative procedure closely with an aim of adoption by the legislators in 2018.

In conflict-affected and politically unstable areas, armed groups sometimes use forced labour to extract minerals or otherwise use minerals to fund their activities, for example

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<sup>34</sup> COM(2016)616: [http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/september/tradoc\\_154976.pdf](http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/september/tradoc_154976.pdf)

<sup>35</sup> Regulation (EC) No 428/2009

to buy weapons. These so-called 'conflict minerals', such as tin, tantalum, tungsten and gold (3TG), can find their way into e.g. our mobile phones, cars and jewellery. Therefore, the EU has adopted a new EU regulation ensure that importation of 3TG is responsible and does not contribute to violent conflict and human rights abuses, and thereby contributing to the sustainable, equitable and effective development and the livelihood of local communities. The requirements on EU importers will apply as of 1 January 2021 so that companies have time to adapt. In the meantime, outreach dialogues on conflict minerals with a number of trading partners will continue in 2018 as in recent years. Furthermore, the Commission expects to come forward with non-binding guidelines i) to economic operators on how to interpret the criteria for conflict-affected and high-risk areas, as well ii) to EU Member States' competent authorities on how to carry out ex-post checks. A delegated act on the methodology and criteria for the recognition of supply chain due diligence schemes will also be developed during 2018.

With respect to the 'Anti-Torture' Regulation, and following the successful launch of a Global Alliance to end trade in goods that could be used for torture or capital punishment on 18 September 2017 involving Commissioner Malmström, DG Trade will support the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI) in its efforts to promote the EU model and encourage third countries to develop and adopt similar legislation.

## Performance tables setting out concrete deliverables for the year



### Specific objective 1. Trade Negotiations

Main outputs in 2018:		
All new initiatives from the Commission Work Programme		
Description	Indicator	Target date
EU-Australia and EU-New Zealand free trade agreements <i>2015/TRADE/040</i>	Adoption of recommendations by the Council Launch of FTA negotiations	Q1 2018
Commission proposals for Council decisions concluding and authorising the signature and provisional application of the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement <i>PLAN/2017/2010</i>	College adoption of proposals for Council Decisions	1 <sup>st</sup> half 2018
	Council adoption of the Decisions	June/July 2018
Commission proposals for Council decisions on signature and conclusion of the EU-Singapore free trade and investment protection agreement(s) <i>2015/TRADE/020 and 021</i>	College adoption of proposals for Council Decisions	1 <sup>st</sup> half 2018
	Council adoption of the Decisions	2 <sup>nd</sup> half 2018
Commission proposals for Council decisions on signature and conclusion of the EU-Vietnam free trade and investment protection agreement(s) <i>2015/TRADE/046 and 047</i>	College adoption of proposals for Council Decisions	2nd half 2018
	Council adoption of the Decisions	2nd half 2018

Modernisation of the trade part of the EU-Chile Association Agreement <i>2015/TRADE/039</i>	Launch of FTA negotiations	Q1 2018
<b>Other important outputs</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target date</b>
Enhancement of the EU-Turkey bilateral trade relations and the modernisation of the Customs Union <i>2015/TRADE+/035</i>	Launch of negotiations	2018
Myanmar Investment Agreement	Completion of negotiations	Q4 2018
China Investment Agreement	Exchange of offers	Q2 2018
Commission proposal for Regulation implementing the bilateral safeguard clauses of future EU trade agreements <i>PLAN/2017/1886</i>	College adoption	Q1 2018
Trade part of Association Agreement with Azerbaijan	Completion of negotiations	2018
Trade part of Association Agreement with the Micro States	Completion of negotiations	Q4 2018
Post Buenos Aires Negotiations (WTO)	Submission of textual proposals in the WTO	Throughout 2018
Council decision on adaptation of EU-Chile Association Agreement to take account of Croatia's accession to the EU <i>2015/EEAS+/001 and 002</i>	Council Decision adopted	2018
Council decision on adaptation of EU-Mexico Global Agreement to take account of Croatia's accession to the EU <i>2016/EEAS/018 and 019</i>	Council decision adopted	2018
Council decision on adaptation of EU-Central America Association Agreement to take account of Croatia's accession to the EU	College adoption of proposal for Council decision	2018
<b>Important items from financing decisions</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>
Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) for FTAs with Indonesia, Malaysia, and	Interim report Final report Commission Position Paper	April 2018 September 2018 November 2018

the Philippines <i>[2016 budget]</i>		
SIA for Agreement with Mercosur <i>[2016 budget]</i>	Commission Position Paper	March 2018
SIA for FTA with India <i>[2016 budget]</i>	Contract signature Interim report Final report Commission Position Paper	depends on the resumption of negotiations
SIA for Agreement with Mexico	Contract signature on 14/08/2017 Interim report Final report Commission Position Paper	February 2018 July 2018 October 2018
SIA for Agreement with Turkey	Final report Commission Position Paper	May 2018 September 2018
SIA for FTA with Australia and New Zealand	Contract signature Interim report Final report Commission Position Paper	March 2018 July 2018 December 2018 February 2019
SIA for Agreement with Chile	Contract signature Interim report Final report Commission Position Paper	December 2018 July 2018 December 2018 February 2019
SIA for deepening of EU-ESA EPA, combined with ex post evaluation	Contract signature Interim report Final report Commission Position Paper	April 2018 December 2018 September 2019 December 2019

## Specific objective 2. Effective Implementation

Main outputs in 2018:		
Output	Indicator	Target date
Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for screening of foreign direct investments into the European Union <i>COM/2017/0487 final</i>	Adoption by the European Parliament and the Council	2018
Communication on international investment <i>PLAN/2017/1072</i>	College adoption	Q3/Q4 2018
Convention to establish a multilateral court on investment <i>COM/2017/0493</i>	Adoption by the Council	Q1 2018
Trade and Investment Barriers Report <i>PLAN/2017/2271</i>	College adoption	Q2 2018
Second Free Trade Agreement Implementation Report <i>PLAN/2017/2269</i>	College adoption	Q3 2018
Annual report South Korea	College adoption	Q3 2018
Annual report Central America <i>PLAN/2017/2016</i>	College adoption	Q1 2018
Annual report Colombia/Peru/Ecuador <i>PLAN/2017/2016</i>	College adoption	Q1 2018
CETA Committees rules of procedure <i>PLAN/2017/2020</i>	Commission proposal for a Council Decision	Q1 2018
Proposals for Council Decisions on the Rules of Procedure for the joint institutions of the EU-SADC EPA <i>PLAN/2017/2230</i>	College adoption Adoption by Council	Q4 2018
Proposal for Council Decision on the amendment of the protocol on rules of origin to the EU-ESA EPA <i>PLAN/2017/2238</i>	College adoption Adoption by Council	Q4 2018
Proposals for Council Decisions on rules of origin, arbitrators and the rules of procedure for dispute settlement under the EU-Central Africa EPA <i>PLAN/2017/2222</i>	College adoption Adoption by Council	Q4 2018
Proposals for Council	College adoption	



Decisions on the accession of Croatia to the EPAs with Central Africa, with the Pacific States and with the Caribbean <i>PLAN/2017/2247- 2225</i>	Adoption by Council	Q4 2018
Proposals for Council Decisions on the Rules of Procedure and protocol on rules of origin of the EU-Ghana EPA <i>PLAN/2017/2250 - 2232</i>	College adoption Adoption by Council	Q4 2018
Proposal for Council Decision on protocol on rules of origin for EU-Côte d'Ivoire EPA <i>PLAN/2017/2231</i>	College adoption Adoption by Council	Q4 2018
Proposal for Council Decisions concerning the accession of Samoa and Solomon Islands to the EU-Pacific States EPA <i>PLAN/2017/2241</i>	College adoption Adoption by Council	Q4 2018
Proposal for Council Decisions concerning the rules of procedure, rules of origin and arbitrators under the EU-Pacific States EPA <i>PLAN/2017/2244 - 2245 - 2246</i>	College adoption Adoption by Council	Q4 2018
<b>Important items from financing decisions</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>
Interim ex-post evaluation of the implementation of the EU-Korea FTA <i>2015/TRADE/054</i> <i>[2016 budget]</i>	Staff Working Document	March 2018
Ex-post evaluation of Trade Agreement with Colombia and Peru <i>PLAN/2017/2334</i>	Contract signature Interim report Final report Staff Working Document	Launch 2018 Final report 2019
Interim ex-post evaluation of the implementation of the EU-Caribbean EPA <i>PLAN/2017/2308</i>	Staff Working Document	Launch 2018 Final report 2019
Evaluation of the trade pillar of six EU Association Agreements with Euromed countries (Tunisia, Morocco, Egypt, Jordan, Algeria and Lebanon) <i>PLAN/2017/1317</i>	Contract signature Interim report Final report Staff Working Document	Launch 2018 Final report 2019

### Specific objective 3. Tackling Unfair Trade

Main outputs in 2018:		
Output	Indicator	Target date
TDI investigations conducted in an effective and efficient manner.	Completion of investigations within statutory deadlines or, whenever possible, a month earlier	Demand driven. To be adopted within the regulatory deadlines
	Timeliness of conclusion of investigations	100% of investigations concluded within deadlines while 10% of new investigations concluded before the mandatory deadline (by at least a month)
Proposal for Regulation of EP and Council amending Regulation 2016/1036 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the EU and Regulation 2016/1037 on protection against subsidised imports from countries not members of EU – related to modernisation of the EU's trade defence instruments <i>COM(2013)191 final 721</i>	Adoption by Council of EU and European Parliament	Q2 2018
Tackling and preventing overcapacity and its trade distortions	Implementation of the G20 commitments in the Global Forum for Steel Excess Capacity.  Enhance actionable information and policy response regarding overcapacity in traditional and high-tech sectors.	2018
Transparency initiative: Impact assessment and public consultation on increased transparency in TDI proceedings	Launch	Second half 2018
Annual reports: - 36th Annual Report on the EU's Anti-Dumping, Anti-Subsidy and Safeguard activities <i>PLAN/2017/XXXX</i> - 15 <sup>th</sup> Report on overview of third countries trade defence actions against the EU <i>PLAN/2017/</i>	College adoption	Q2 2018

## Specific objective 4. A Sustainable Approach to Trade

Main outputs in 2018:		
Output	Indicator	Target date
Export control review - Proposal for a Regulation of the EP and Council setting up a Union regime for the control of exports, transfer, brokering, technical assistance and transit of dual-use items (recast) <i>2015/TRADE/027 - COM(2016)616</i>	Adoption by the European Parliament and the Council	2018
Commission Delegated Regulation updating the EU control list for dual-use items <i>PLAN/2017/</i>	Commission adoption	Q3 2018
Export control annual report <i>PLAN/2017/</i>	Commission adoption	Q2 2018
International Procurement Instrument - Commission amended proposal for a Regulation of the European parliament and the Council on access of third-country goods and services to the Union's internal market in public procurement and procedures supporting negotiations on access of Union goods and services to the public markets of third countries. <i>Initial proposal: COM(2012)124</i> <i>Revised proposal: COM(2016)34</i>	Adoption by the European Parliament and the Council	2018
Possible amendments to the annexes of the GSP Regulation based on mid-term evaluation and annual review	College adoption	Q4 2018
Non-binding guidelines in the form of a handbook for economic operators on the identification of conflict-affected and high-risk areas and red flags.	Adoption by College	Q2 2018
Non-binding guidelines for Member States Competent Authorities for 'ex-post' compliance checks for the Conflict Minerals Regulation (EU) 2017/821	Adoption by College	Q2 2018
Delegated act for methodology and criteria allowing the Commission to assess supply chain due diligence schemes for recognition		

<i>PLAN/2017/1286</i>		
<b>Important items from financing decisions</b>		
Mid-term evaluation report on GSP	Interim report Final report	2018

## **PART 2. MAIN ORGANISATIONAL MANAGEMENT OUTPUTS FOR THE YEAR**

### ***A. Human resource management***

The HR Modernisation project, as laid down in the Communication on Synergies and Efficiencies, continues to be rolled out in the Commission. HR services for DGs are now delivered by the Account Management Centres (AMCs). Within each DG, the HR Business Correspondent coordinates strategic HR matters and prepares the related decisions of the DG's management.

### **DG Trade's specific objective is to motivate and retain highly qualified staff in order to maintain effective and efficient operation of DG Trade.**

DG Trade staff engagement (i.e. overall indicator for staff satisfaction) in 2016 remains above the Commission average at 67% and improved by 2 percentage points since the 2014 staff satisfaction survey. Despite this very positive feedback, results on well-being continue to be below the Commission average (26%) and have even decreased since the 2014 staff satisfaction survey. The staff survey also showed the need to improve and increase internal communication actions. Being mindful of the very high workload in DG Trade, further actions seeking to improve work-life- balance/well-being, focusing on managing stress and workload (including through elements of flexibility like teleworking and flexitime) - will be a priority for the coming year. In 2017 a specific action plan to follow-up the 2016 staff survey results was put in place with a special focus on career development, work-life balance, well-being and internal communication and from which actions will continue to be implemented in the different areas in 2018.

DG Trade is taking very seriously its commitment to promote gender equality. Compared to the baseline figure 2015 (18.5%) we have increased substantially the percentage of female middle managers towards our target 2019 in 2016 to 24.1% and now stand at 30%, the initial target for 2019. We have also fulfilled our target of first appointments of female middle management with two appointments. In 2018, and in addition to trade policy related training events we will put special focus on training actions on management development and well-being.

Furthermore, DG Trade continuously analyses how efficiently and effectively it manages its human resources. This enables it to prepare for forward planning of staff in order to optimise the human resources needed for implementing its policy objectives while at the same time ensuring staff engagement through learning and development, well-being and diversity actions.

DG Trade further prepares a Resources Report (covering both financial and human resources) and circulates it to management. The report focuses on and analyses vacancy rates, rate of and length of sensitive posts, turnover of staff, the proportion of external staff/statutory staff, work/life balance, gender balance in AD and management positions, and absence management.

Each year, we hold a spring and autumn review, where, together with Senior Management, we look at the human resource and mobility situation in the DG. These reviews also help DG Trade's senior management decide how to meet the compulsory Commission cut and tax of staff posts for the redeployment pool; to decide any needs for further reinforcement, or whether to consider internal redeployments of staff. Through this process, continuous redistribution of human resources within the DG is possible so that we can meet our priorities while at the same time balancing insufficient staff levels and turnover of staff. Where necessary, we take mitigating actions.

**The DG deploys effectively its resources in support of the delivery of the Commission priorities and core business, has a competent and engaged workforce, which is driven by an effective and gender-balanced management and which can deploy its full potential within supportive and healthy working conditions.**

**Main outputs in 2018:**

Output	Indicator	Target
Organisation of suitable training courses to ensure that the DG has the skilled, knowledgeable and competent staff required to meet its present and future needs within all categories of staff	Number of trade policy related training courses/lunch time sessions organised in 2018	10 trade policy related training courses/lunch time sessions
	Average number of participants in the WTO Law courses	On average 15 participants per WTO Law course
Increase the pool of AD women, which could potentially be interested in a managerial position, to ensure gender diversity primarily at middle management level through organisation of pre-management training sessions	Percentage of AD female staff in DG Trade in 2016 19.09%. <i>[source: Clikview -01/01/2016 - % of total staff]</i>	>19.09 %
	Percentage of women in middle management 2017 figures 30% <i>[source: DG Trade HR Dashboard – 1 December 2017 version]</i> <i>[to be updated in December]</i>	≥30 %
	Number of pre-management training sessions organised	2 training sessions with an average of 10 participants
The organisation of events in the form of "Health days" or a "Health week" for all DG Trade staff in line with the DG TRADE's Staff Survey Action Plan	Number of "Health" events organised in 2018	2 Health events
	Average number of participants in the workshops organised during these events	An average of 10 participants in each workshop
Internal communication: regular debriefings for staff on major policy initiatives to ensure staff are well informed of the latest developments in trade policy and major Commission initiatives.	Percentage of Trade Foreign Affairs Councils that are followed by debriefings for staff	100 %
	Percentage of working days on which the Daily Trade Press Review is issued	100 %

<p>Issue an accessible Daily Trade Press Review to inform staff of how trade issues are reported in the media and what DG trade staff in HQ and delegations is working on with a view to reinforcing the team spirit and motivation with the DG and with staff in delegations.</p>		
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***B. Financial Management: Internal control and Risk management***

**DG Trade’s specific objective in financial management is to plan, perform, monitor and report on the spending of financial resources with a view to ensure a sound, legal and regular financial management throughout the DG's activities.**

**DG Trade’s specific objective on fraud detection is to improve and contribute to strengthening DG Trade's capacity to prevent and detect fraud, thus reinforcing existing measures which are in place for the purpose of protecting the EU's financial interests, without prejudice to OLAF's investigation responsibilities for the fight against fraud.**

Although DG Trade manages a relatively small budget, it does acquire services for economic and impact assessment studies, for organising conferences and negotiation rounds, for IT support, and for legal and other services. These services are generally provided by specialised consultants or service providers through public procurement. In addition, DG Trade also executes part of its operational budget by concluding Pillar Assessed Grants and Delegation Agreement (PAGODA agreements) with the international organisations.

The budget is mainly implemented through direct management, while part of the contributions to international organisations are implemented through delegated agreements, i.e. indirect management. DG Trade is expected to continue to operate a decentralised financial circuit with counter-weight. All transactions are therefore subject to an independent, ex-ante financial verification. No ex-post function is set up. In addition, a combination of preventive, detective and corrective controls are embedded into the programming and planning, verification, execution and monitoring, management and reporting and communication processes so as to ensure effective mitigation of the financial and management risks.

These include:

- An annual programming exercise and two mid-term reviews of budget implementation and human resource management;
- An up-to-date Finance Manual, complemented by hands-on guidance, local training and references to central guidance;
- Financial circuits designed to ensure compliance with the Financial Regulation and its Rules of Application;
- Regular accounting controls;
- Formal reporting requirements and hand-over procedures for Authorising Officers by Sub Delegation;

- Detailed management reporting on key human and financial resource related indicators (Resources report and spring and autumn reviews);
- Weekly bulletins on payment delays;
- An Administrative Coordination Assistant's network;
- A DG Trade specific ethics framework, including an anti-fraud strategy of which DG Trade intends to increase the level of staff awareness.

**Effective and reliable internal control system giving the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and the regularity of the underlying transactions.**

**Effective and reliable internal control system in line with sound financial management.**

**Main outputs in 2018:**

Description	Indicator	Target
Full implementation of the financial resources allocated to DG Trade	% of budget execution with respect to annual and final budgets Source : ABAC	Commitments: 100% Payments: 100%
Compliance with payment times	Percentage of payment files executed within legal deadlines Source : ABAC	Target > 95%
Effectiveness of controls carried out	Cost of control over expenditure authorised Source: DG Trade Annual Activity Report	Same costs for the same budget (i.e. <10%)
Effectiveness of controls carried out	Number of exceptions and non-compliance events Number of decisions overriding of controls Source: DG Trade internal Registry	Keep stable / reduce  Zero
Effectiveness of controls carried out	No of legal cases following complaints in procurement procedures Source: DG Trade	None
Estimated residual error rate	Conservative estimate of RER Source: DG Trade AAR	< 2%

**Minimisation of the risk of fraud through application of effective anti-fraud measures, integrated in all activities of the DG, based on the DG's anti-fraud strategy (AFS) aimed at the prevention, detection and reparation of fraud.**

**Main outputs in 2018:**

Description	Indicator	Target
Report to OLAF on the	Number of OLAF cases reported	0/0



financial and administrative follow-up given to OLAF investigations	% of recommendations issued by OLAF implemented/closed by DG Trade within deadlines Source: DG Trade	100%
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### ***C. Better Regulation***

The main planned outputs linked to the Better Regulation objective in the Strategic Plan are listed in Part 1 under the relevant specific objective in the tables.

### ***D. Information management aspects***

Information is a major asset for DG Trade. There is a need to move away from managing documents in a registry-like fashion to managing the whole lifecycle of the information. For that purpose, we need to support collaboration with efficient tools. DG Trade intends to extend the use of current and future corporate tools for information and knowledge management, taking into account its specific security needs. In this context, DG Trade is developing a more strategic approach to encourage knowledge sharing and collaborative working, in line with the corporate framework, such as developing a share-by-default approach combined with a need-to-know confidentiality scheme. The objective will be, among others, to identify the information assets of corporate interest that could be shared with other services, notably for the transparency obligations.

Concerning document management, systematic filing of documents in ARES is a prerequisite for the effective and efficient sharing and reuse of the information managed by HAN (Hermes-Ares-Nomcom). It is also important with a view to ensuring a transparent approach to policy making. DG Trade will pursue its strategy of awareness raising and promoting the active use of ARES by all staff and management, together with a systematic monitoring of the use made by all DG Trade departments.

Following a first step of analysis and consultation with stakeholders in DG Trade, some areas have been identified not only as candidates for sharing files with other DGs but also to expand the visibility within our DG. This approach could be gradually expanded to all other possible areas of activity where open sharing would generate more benefits.

The integration of TRADE IT systems with HAN is another essential area to achieve efficient sharing and reuse of information. After BASIS integration with HAN, other applications as EMT (Event Management Tool) follow the same scheme.

These initiatives should generate efficiency gains, improve the speed of processes and facilitate a more comprehensive use of the HAN tools.

The use of the electronic signature in ARES and the gradual elimination of parallel paper signatories significantly contribute to speeding-up processes and to improve the efficiency of workflow circuits. Since the generalisation of the use of the ARES e-signatory at the end of 2016 in DG Trade, a significant progress has been achieved with the elimination of parallel paper circulation by more than 90% throughout 2017. DG Trade's objective for 2018 is to try to at least maintain this percentage and if possible increase it.

**Objective: Information and knowledge in your DG is shared and reusable by other DGs. Important documents are registered, filed and retrievable.**

**Main outputs in 2018:**

Output	Indicator	Target
Managing information and knowledge within DG Trade	<p>Support preservation of corporate knowledge and coordination of trade negotiations through the evolution of the NEST project and the Trade Together collaboration platform.</p> <p>Support the effective implementation of trade agreements through the A3G project and the evolution of Market Access Database and Trade Helpdesk.</p> <p>Support tackling of unfair trade through the implementation of the Tron project in trade defence</p> <p>Support legislative and political initiatives through the creation of information systems such as e-licensing and torture-free trade.</p> <p>Support knowledge management in the domain of statistical and analytical reporting through the introduction of the Quasar service.</p> <p>Support trade policy management through the introduction and operation of collaboration tools including BASIS (briefing repository), EMT (meeting database) and Kiosk (on-line document store).</p> <p>Share information in the IT domain through the reusability of software components with other DGs such as DIGIT and COMP.</p>	December 2018
Handling email registration in Ares	Number of emails registered with Areslook	Maintaining the proportion of one-third of the total
Better use of electronic workflows, with the reduction of errors caused by the double circulation and the reduction of paper storage	Number of registered documents with a fully approved e-signatory (no paper circulation in parallel).	=/> 90% of registered documents approved in full electronic mode (without paper signatories circulation)

## ***E. External communication activities***

**DG Trade's specific objective is to make citizens understand and recognise the value of external trade for the EU's economic and social model, and to make them aware and supportive of trade agreements.**

EU trade policy features in three of the Juncker Commission's policy priorities with its focus on the creation of jobs, growth and investment (priority 1), the enhanced role of Europe as a global player (priority 9) and a balanced and progressive trade policy to harness globalisation (priority 6).

In 2018, the increased political and public scrutiny and interest regarding the EU's trade policy, and how it relates to globalisation is expected to continue. President Juncker's call in the State of the Union for a Europe that protects while rejecting protectionism is in part a reaction to this. New areas of action and focus in 2018 and beyond have been identified in the Communication 'A Balanced and Progressive Trade Policy to Harness Globalisation'. Our communications activities will need to reflect this new focus and adjustment in emphasis.

In terms of negotiations, the focus of attention is likely to be the possible political conclusion and follow-up of talks with Mexico and Mercosur and the launch of negotiations with Chile, Australia, and New Zealand, as well as negotiations for a Multilateral Investment Court. Following the expected finalisation of negotiations with Japan by end 2017, the next steps will be the submission of a proposal for signature and conclusion to the Council. One other important milestone in 2018 will be the Commission proposal for signature and conclusion for the Singapore and Vietnam agreements, and the subsequent ratification process. One can expect significant interest from stakeholders' interest in view of the ongoing debate on the architecture of trade agreements following the ECJ ruling.

TTIP negotiations with the US are stopped, but the case for open markets needs to be made as strongly as ever in the transatlantic context and internationally.

Beyond negotiations, communication activities will support the EU's efforts to tackle unfair trade, including through trade defence and dispute settlement in the World Trade Organisation.

Finally in 2018 more communication resources will be devoted to the FTA implementation agenda; In order to increase European small and medium sized companies' awareness about the opportunities offered by trade agreements, the DG foresees a two year project to develop new communication material (including through a modernised market access database) as well as outreach activities dedicated to those companies.

The DG's communications, information, outreach and transparency work at European and national level will concentrate on these priority issues. It is very important that DG Trade is able to demonstrate and explain the entire breadth and width of the Commission's trade policy activities, including in the policy's multilateral dimension, development function and its contribution to jobs and growth in the EU. We must show that trade is part of the solution to the challenges the EU faces, not part of the problem.

As part of its commitment to a transparent and inclusive trade negotiation process, DG Trade will continue to develop its integrated approach of being more transparent about its work; providing comprehensive information about trade negotiations and EU trade policy; engaging with civil society, stakeholders and the general public; and explaining the benefits of trade such as jobs and growth. Within the resources available, DG Trade will continue to pursue this approach not only from Commission headquarters in Brussels,

but also from Commission representations in the Member States, in particular in the three Member States where there are specific posts for trade communications and outreach officers (Berlin, Paris and Vienna). It will also continue to deploy staff to participate in grass roots level events and to work closely with Commission Representations, with a particular focus on those in Member States where public opinion is more negative. It will also seek to encourage Member State governments to play their part in communicating about EU trade policy and ensuring transparent and inclusive processes at national level.

The DG's own activities will be complemented with relevant material production and projects financed from the DG's communication budget. The overall estimated spending for communications actions for 2018 amounts to 1 465 000 €. This will include press- and journalist-related activities (specifically dedicated seminars), trade publications, production of multimedia communication material, policy events and regional and local activities.

<b>Citizens perceive that the EU is working to improve their lives and engage with the EU. They feel that their concerns are taken into consideration in European decision making and they know about their rights in the EU.</b>			
<b>Main outputs in 2018:</b>			
<b>Description</b>		<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>
Implement the integrated communications and outreach strategy	the	Europe Direct requests	1,500
	and	Publication downloads (visits)	2,000,000
		Website visits	1,500,000
		Social media reach	10,000,000
Benefits of trade information campaign: Sourcing and development of stories, content marketing in 9 EU Member States (classical media and social media) Production of relevant material (brochures, videos, online material)		Quality of material produced  Downloads of material; online views	Quantitative targets not to be agreed with contractor
Systematic publication or reports of negotiation rounds		Number of documents uploaded	100%
External website: keep it reliable and up to date		Number of webpage views	2,500,000
Civil Society Dialogue		Number of meetings	20-30 in 2018
		Number of public consultations	5-10 in 2018

	Expert Group on Trade Agreements	3-4 in 2018
<b>Important items from financing decisions</b>		
Trade helpdesk	Open procedure to acquire the helpdesk data	Mid 2018

<b>Annual communication spending:</b>	
Baseline (2017)	Estimated commitments (2018)
3 923 962.36 €	1 465 000 €

***F. Example(s) of initiatives to improve economy and efficiency of financial and non-financial activities of the DG***

DG Trade is continuously fine-tuning its internal arrangements in order to improve the efficiency and economy of its operations. The following two initiatives show how these principles are implemented in DG Trade:

**Example 1 - HR management**

DG Trade continues its efforts to absorb both the effects of budgetary austerity and the increased workload as far as possible within existing teams by developing more horizontal cooperation and constantly seeking for redeployment options, both at Commission headquarters in Brussels and in Delegations.

**Example 2 – streamlining financial management**

DG Trade continues to follow-up closely the development of the eProcurement project and pursues the deployment of the ensuing applications as the main driver of efficiency gains in financial management.

## Annex 1. Overview of on-going bilateral negotiations<sup>36</sup>

Time line Negotiations	Impact assessment completed	Scoping	Recommendations to negotiate adopted by Commission	Recommendations to negotiate adopted by Council	Negotiations launched	Number of negotiation rounds	Technical conclusion/ Political agreement	Legal scrubbing completed	Initialling	Translation done	Proposal to sign and conclude adopted by COM	Proposals adopted by Council	Consent by EP
<b>FINALISATION</b>													
Singapore FTA/BIA	-	√	April 2007	December 2009	March 2010	11	October 2014	May 2015	May 2015	October 2015	[1st half 2018]	[1st half 2018]	[1st half 2018]
Vietnam FTA/BIA	-	√	April 2007	May 2012	June 2012	8	December 2015	February 2017	March 2017	[March 2018]	[2nd half 2018]	[2nd half 2018]	[2nd half 2018]
Japan EPA/BIA	July 2012	√	Jul 2012	November 2012	March 2013	17	6 July 2017	[Q1 2018]	[Q1 2018]	[Q2 2018]	[2018]	[2018]	[2018]
West Africa	-		April 2002	June 2002	October 2003	-	February 2014	June 2014	June 2014	September 2014	September 2014	December 2014	[ <sup>37</sup> ]
East African Community (EAC)	-		April 2002	June 2002	February 2004	-	October 2014	September 2015	Oct 2014	February 2016	February 2016	June 2016	[ <sup>38</sup> ]
Armenia	-	February 2015	May 2015	October 2015	December 2015	4	27 February 2017	May 2017	21 March 2017	August 2017	2017	November 2017	-
Modernisation of the trade part of the EU-Chile Association Agreement	February 2017	√	24 May 2017	November 2017	November 2017								

<sup>36</sup> Dates in square brackets are provisional dates to be confirmed

<sup>37</sup> Pending completion of signature process

<sup>38</sup> Pending completion of signature process

Time line Negotiations	Impact assessment completed	Scoping	Recommendations to negotiate adopted by Commission	Recommendations to negotiate adopted by Council	Negotiations launched	Number of negotiation rounds	Technical conclusion/ Political agreement	Legal scrubbing completed	Initialling	Translation done	Proposal to sign and conclude adopted by COM	Proposals adopted by Council	Consent by EP	
<b>ON-GOING</b>													<i>Expected outputs in 2017</i>	
Mercosur	-	√	1999	-	Re-launch May 2010	21)	Political conclusion by early 2018							
Modernisation of the trade part of the EU-Mexico Global Agreement	September 2014	√	December 2015	23 May 2016	June 2016	7	Three more negotiation rounds by end of 2017. Political conclusion by early 2018							
US TTIP	March 2013	√	June 2013	June 2013	July 2013	15	Negotiations were stopped until further notice at the end of 2016. Both sides need to clarify if there is a sufficient level of shared ambition and common ground before deciding whether or how to proceed with new negotiations.							
Thailand FTA	-	√	April 2007	February 2013	March 2013	4	Talks have moved to text-based discussions in most areas, but no market access offers have been exchanged yet. No negotiating rounds scheduled for the time being due to the current political situation in Thailand.							
Malaysia FTA	-	√	April 2007	October 2010	November 2010	7	Contacts continue to examine the basis for a possible resumption of negotiations.							
Indonesia FTA	-	√	April 2007	October 2010	July 2016	3	3 negotiating rounds took place in 2017, and negotiations will continue in 2018							
Philippines FTA	-	√	April 2007	October 2010	December 2015	1	2 negotiating rounds took place in 2017, but no new round currently scheduled							
India FTA	-	√	April 2007	April 2007	June 2007	12	Contacts continue to examine the basis for a possible resumption of negotiations.							
Morocco DCFTA	-	√	October 2011	December 2011	March 2013	4	DCFTA negotiations remained paused during 2017 at Morocco's request, as they carried out additional internal studies and consulted civil society and other domestic stakeholders.							
Tunisia DCFTA	NA	√	October 2011	December 2011	October 2015	2	The negotiators met in Tunis in October 2015 for a first round of negotiations. Discussions remained preliminary but were also open and constructive based on the already existing good cooperation on many of the areas to be covered by the future DCFTA. A first full round of negotiations took place in Tunis in April 2016. The next round is planned for early 2018.							
GCC	-	NA	-	December 1989	October 1990	-	Negotiations were suspended in 2008 by the GCC. The only outstanding issue at the time was the treatment of export duties.							
Libya	NA	NA	February 2008	July 2008	November 2008	10	Negotiations were suspended in February 2011. Resumption will depend on the security situation in the country.							
Russia New Agreement	-	-	-	2008	-	12	The negotiations for a New Agreement have been suspended by the European Council on 6 March 2014.							
Azerbaijan PCA	-	March 2016	July 2016	November 2016	February 2017	2	Advancement of the negotiations with potential conclusion in 2018							
Micro States (Andorra,	NA	2013	April 2014	December 2014	March 2016	4	Potential conclusion of negotiations in 2018							



Time line Negotiations	Impact assessment completed	Scoping	Recommendations to negotiate adopted by Commission	Recommendations to negotiate adopted by Council	Negotiations launched	Number of negotiation rounds	Technical conclusion/ Political agreement	Legal scrubbing completed	Initialling	Translation done	Proposal to sign and conclude adopted by COM	Proposals adopted by Council	Consent by EP
Monaco, San Marino)													
Kyrgyzstan	NA		2 June 2017	9 October 2017	Q1 2018						<i>Potential conclusion of negotiations in 2018-2019</i>		
China investment agreement	May 2013	✓	May 2013	October 2013	November 2013	15					<i>Sixteen rounds have taken place until now; Talks intensified throughout 2017; Negotiations will continue in 2018 with a view to proceed to an exchange of offers in 2018.</i>		
Myanmar investment agreement	Nov 2013	✓	February 2014	March 2014	March 2014	4					<i>The EU made good progress in negotiations in 2017 and expects to conclude in 2018.</i>		
<b>IN THE PIPELINE</b>													
Turkey	<i>October 2016</i>	✓	21 December 2016	<i>[Q? 2018]</i>	<i>[Q? 2018]</i>								
Australia/New Zealand FTA	September 2017		13 September 2017	<i>[Q1 2018]</i>	<i>[Q1 2018]</i>								
Jordan DCFTA Egypt DCFTA	NA	✓	Oct 2011	Dec 2011			<i>Negotiation guidelines have been adopted by the European Council which provides the Commission with the legal basis for starting negotiations with the Southern Mediterranean countries when the conditions are deemed appropriate</i>						
Enhanced PCA with Kyrgyzstan Convention establishing a multilateral investment court	-	<i>First half 2017</i>	<i>First half 2017</i>	<i>Q3 2017</i>	<i>Q4 2017</i>								
	September 2017	✓	13 September 2017	<i>[Q1 2018]</i>	<i>[Q2 2018]</i>								