



# OVERVIEW OF FTA AND OTHER TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Updated July 2019 – Updates in red

## FTA NEGOTIATIONS

Country	Negotiating Directives	Current Status	Next Steps
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>			
<b>USA</b>	Negotiating directives obtained in April 2019	The Council of the EU approved two mandates on 15 April 2019 for an agreement on (1) the elimination of tariffs for industrial goods and on (2) conformity assessment.	Further steps to be determined.
<b>CANADA</b>	Negotiating directives obtained in April 2009	The European Commission has adopted on 5 July 2016 draft proposals for Council Decisions on the signature, provisional application and conclusion of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and submitted this to the Council for adoption. The Council has adopted the CETA proposal on 28 October to allow the signature and the provisional application of CETA. The agreement was signed on 30 October 2016 during the EU Canada bilateral Summit. The European Parliament gave its consent to CETA on 15 February 2017.	On 21 September 2017, the agreement has provisionally entered into force. It will enter into force fully and definitively when all EU Member States parliaments have ratified the Agreement.

## ASIA

<b>JAPAN</b>	Negotiating Directives adopted on 29 November 2012	<p><b>The EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement came into force on 1 February 2019.</b></p> <p>The EPA removes the vast majority of duties paid by EU companies, which sum up to €1 billion annually, opens the Japanese market to key EU agricultural exports and increases opportunities in a range of sectors. It sets the highest standards of labour, safety, environmental and consumer protection, data protection, fully safeguards public services and has a dedicated chapter on sustainable development. For the first time, an agreement includes a specific commitment to the Paris climate change.</p>	Negotiations continue separately for an Investment Protection Agreement (IPA) with Japan. While the substantive provisions have been agreed, the procedural ones (ICS) are still not accepted by Japan. The last discussions on the IPA took place on 20-22 March 2019 in Tokyo. The next discussions are planned for autumn 2019.
<b>CHINA</b>	See below in: Other Trade Negotiations		
<b>ASEAN</b> <i>More on each particular country below</i>	Negotiating directives obtained in April 2007	<p>Negotiations with a regional grouping of 7 ASEAN Member States started in July 2007. In March 2009, the 7th Joint Committee agreed to take a pause in the regional negotiations. In December 2009, EU Member States agreed that the Commission would pursue FTA negotiations in a bilateral format with countries of ASEAN. Negotiations with Singapore and Malaysia were launched in 2010, with Vietnam in June 2012 and with Thailand in March 2013. Negotiations with Philippines and Indonesia were launched in 2016.</p> <p>In March 2017 Ministers tasked the Senior Economic Officials to work out the parameters of a future ASEAN-EU region-to-region agreement and to report back to the next Ministerial meeting in 2018 under the Singapore chairmanship.</p> <p>In March 2018 in Singapore the Ministers took note of the progress done and tasked the Senior Economic Officials to continue their efforts in developing the future Framework, including through continued domestic consultations and engagements in experts' dialogues.</p>	A group meeting taking place in July is to be confirmed.
<b>SINGAPORE</b>	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	Trade and investment negotiations with Singapore were launched in 2010 and completed in 2012, with the exception of provisions on investment protection, which were finalised in	Following the EP's consent, the FTA should enter into force once Singapore concludes its own internal procedures and both sides complete the final formalities.

		<p>2014 and subsequently amended in 2017 to bring them in line with the EU's new approach to investment protection and dispute resolution.</p> <p>Following the Court of Justice of the EU Opinion 2/15 (issued on 16 May 2017), the result of negotiations with Singapore was adjusted to create two standalone agreements: a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and an Investment Protection Agreement (IPA). The draft trade and investment agreements were signed on 19 October 2018 and received the consent of the European Parliament on 13 February 2019.</p>	<p>The IPA will further need to be ratified by all EU Member States according to their own national procedures before it can enter into force.</p>
MALAYSIA	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	<p>Trade and investment negotiations with Malaysia were launched in 2010 and, after seven rounds of negotiation, put on hold in April 2012 at the request of Malaysia.</p>	<p>Before resuming negotiations, it is important that the EU and Malaysia see eye-to-eye on the level of ambition of a future deal. The EU is looking for a comprehensive and ambitious agreement, equivalent to the ones it has reached with Singapore and Vietnam. A stocktaking exercise took place in 2016-2017 to assess prospects in this regard. The government that took office in Malaysia following the general elections of May 2018 has yet to take a position on the possible resumption of negotiations.</p>
VIETNAM	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	<p>Trade and investment negotiations with Vietnam were launched in 2012 and completed in December 2015.</p> <p>Following the Court of Justice of the EU Opinion 2/15, and in a similar way to what had been done with the EU-Singapore agreements, the result of negotiations with Vietnam was adjusted to create a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and an Investment Protection Agreement (IPA).</p> <p>The trade and investment agreements were signed on 30 June 2019. The texts are available on <a href="#">DG Trade's website</a>.</p>	<p>Following the signature of the agreements, both sides are carrying out their respective ratification procedures. On the EU side, the Council has seized the European Parliament for its consent.</p> <p>Once the European Parliament has given its consent, the FTA can be officially concluded by the Council and enter into force. The IPA will further need to be ratified by all EU Member States according to their own national procedures before it can enter into force.</p>
THAILAND	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	<p>Negotiations on an FTA with Thailand were launched in March 2013 and four rounds took place until April 2014. Since the military takeover in Thailand in May 2014 no further FTA rounds have been scheduled.</p>	<p>In line with the Conclusions adopted by the Council in December 2017, the resumption of FTA negotiations may be pursued after a democratically elected civilian government is in place in Thailand. The EU stands ready to explore with Thailand the level of interest and ambition for a possible resumption of the negotiations.</p>
INDONESIA	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	<p>The Council gave the Commission the green light to start negotiations for an FTA with Indonesia on 18 July 2016.</p> <p>The first round of negotiations took place in September 2016 in</p>	<p>The 9<sup>th</sup> round will take place in the week of 30 September 2019 in Brussels.</p>

		Brussels. The last round of negotiations took place in the week of 17 June 2019 in Jakarta.	
PHILIPPINES	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	Trade and investment negotiations with the Philippines were launched in December 2015. The first round of negotiations took place in May 2016 in Brussels and the second round was held in February 2017 in Cebu City (Philippines).	No date has been set yet for the next round of negotiations.
MYANMAR/BURMA	Negotiating directives for an investment protection agreement adopted in March 2014	The EU sent its text proposal in December 2014. Four rounds of negotiations have taken place so far: 9-12 February 2015, 25-29 May 2015, 21-23 September 2015, and 13-16 December 2016. Technical discussions were held on 26-27 April 2017, and good progress was made, but discussions will have to continue.	No date has been set yet for the next round of negotiations.

<b>INDIA</b>	Negotiating directives obtained in April 2007	Negotiations for an ambitious and broad-based FTA were launched in June 2007 and, after 12 formal rounds and several technical meetings, were brought to a <i>de facto</i> standstill in the summer 2013 due to a mismatch of the level of ambitions. The EU remains committed to strengthening the economic partnership with India, and to a comprehensive and mutually beneficial India-EU FTA once there is sufficient mutual understanding on the scope and level ambition thereof.	Both sides remain in regular contact in order to create the right conditions for resumption.
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## OCEANIA

<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	Commission proposed negotiating directives in September 2017. The Council discussions on the texts are on-going.	On 18 June 2018, EU and Australia launched negotiations for a comprehensive trade agreement. The first formal round of talks took place in Brussels from 2 to 6 July. On 22 May 2018, the Council of the European Union adopted the decision authorising the opening of negotiations for a trade agreement. In September 2017 the College adopted the draft negotiating directives. The Commission proposal was published, along with the impact assessment report. The 2 <sup>nd</sup> round was held during the week of 19 <sup>th</sup> November in Australia. The 3 <sup>rd</sup> round took place in the week of 25 March 2019 in Australia.	The 4 <sup>th</sup> round will take place in the week of 1 July 2019 in Brussels.
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<b>NEW ZEALAND</b>	Commission proposed negotiating directives in September 2017. The Council discussions on the texts are on-going.	A joint scoping paper was concluded in March 2017. In September 2017 the College adopted the draft negotiating directives. The Commission proposal was published, along with the impact assessment report. Negotiations launched 21 June 2018, first formal round of talks took place in Brussels from 16 to 20 July. The second round took place in Wellington in 8-12 October, followed by an inter-sessional in Brussels on 12-14 December. The third round took place in the week of 18 February 2019 in Brussels.	The fourth round will take place in the week of 13 May 2019 in New Zealand.
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## LATIN AMERICA

<b>MERCOSUR</b>	Negotiating Directives of 1999	An agreement in principle was reached on the trade part on 28 June 2019. The agreement will remove the majority of tariffs on EU exports to Mercosur, saving over €4 billion worth of duties per year. Mercosur countries will protect 355 European Geographical Indications from imitation. The agreement will create new opportunities by opening up services sectors and government procurement markets at central level. It sets the highest standards for food safety and consumer protection. It safeguards the Parties' right to regulate in the public interest and preserves the right to organise public services in the way they consider appropriate. The trade and sustainable development chapter includes strong provisions on labour rights and environmental protection, including a commitment to effectively implement the Paris Climate Agreement and explicit reference to the precautionary principle. Civil society organisations will have an active role to overview the implementation of the entire agreement. Negotiations resumed in 2016 after an exchange of market access offers took place in May 2016. Negotiation rounds have taken place alternatively in Mercosur and Brussels.	The texts and market access offers will be published as soon as the last technical details are finalised. Once finalised, the texts and offers will need to undergo legal revision and translation into all EU languages, before the Commission can start the necessary internal procedures for to the transmission of the agreement to the Council and European Parliament.
<b>MEXICO</b>	Negotiating Directives of 2016	The EU and Mexico started the negotiation process for the modernisation of the EU-Mexico Global Agreement in 2016. A political agreement was reached on 21 April 2018.	In the end of 2018, negotiators resolved remaining technical issues and finalised the full legal text. Mexico is to deliver on public procurement.
<b>CHILE</b>	Negotiating Directives of 2017	Negotiations were launched on 16 November 2017 in Brussels. The fourth round took place in the week of 1 April 2019 in Santiago de Chile.	The fifth round will take place in the week of 15 July 2019 in Brussels.

## CANDIDATE COUNTRIES

<b>TURKEY</b>	Draft Negotiating directives adopted by Commission on 21 December 2016.	Council started its deliberations on the Commission's proposal on 20 January 2017. During 2017, the proposal was under discussion in the Council Working Groups COELA and TPC, as well as in the European Parliament. It is up to the Council to conclude its work on the Negotiating directives.	The negotiations can start once the Council adopts the Negotiating directives. However, in that context the conclusions of the General Affairs Council meeting of 26 June 2018 noted: " <i>Turkey has been moving further away from the European Union. Turkey's accession negotiations have therefore effectively come to a standstill and no further chapters can be considered for opening or closing and no further work towards the modernisation of the EU-Turkey Customs Union is foreseen.</i> "
<b>BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA</b>		The EU-Bosnia and Herzegovina Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) was signed in June 2008 and entered into force in June 2015 (the trade part entered into force in July 2008 through an Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters).	Negotiations for Bosnia and Herzegovina's accession to the WTO are on-going.
<b>SERBIA</b>		The EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) was signed in April 2008 and entered into force in Sept. 2013 (the trade part entered into force in 2010 through an Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters).	Negotiations for Serbia's accession to the WTO are on-going.

## SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN & MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES

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

		<p>DCFTA. The negotiations were launched on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2015 in Tunis, in presence of Commissioner Malmström and the Tunisian Minister of Trade. A preliminary round followed during the week of 19 – 22 October 2015 in Tunis. The first full round took place in Tunis in the week of 18 – 21 April 2016 and was followed by a technical round during 6 – 10 February 2017 in Brussels. The second full round took place in Tunis in May 2018. The third round took place in December 2018 in Brussels. The fourth round took place in 28-30 April/1-2 May 2019 in Tunis.</p>	
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### ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries)

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

## OTHER TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Country	Negotiating Directives	Current Status	Next Steps
<b>ARMENIA</b>	Directives for the negotiation of a Framework Agreement between the EU and Armenia were adopted by the Council on 12 October 2015.	No mandate/negotiations for an FTA.  Negotiations to enhance and replace the current Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) in force, including its trade related provisions were concluded on 27th February and initialled on 21 March 2017. The Agreement was signed on 24 November 2017 in the margins of the Eastern Partnership summit.	The Agreement applies provisionally since 1 June 2018.
<b>AZERBAIJAN</b>	Directives for the negotiation of a Comprehensive Agreement between the EU and Azerbaijan were	No mandate/negotiations for an FTA.  Negotiations to enhance and replace the current Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) in force, including its trade related provisions, were launched in	The eighth round is to be scheduled.



	adopted by the Council on 7 November 2016.	February 2017. The sixth round of trade negotiations took place in Brussels on 27-29 March 2019. The seventh round of trade negotiations took place in Baku on 23-25 April 2019  Negotiations of the WTO accession of Azerbaijan are ongoing.	
<b>BELARUS</b>	Conclusions of the European Council on Belarus of 15 February 2016 call for 'the acceleration of the implementation of measures aimed at enhancing EU-Belarus cooperation in a number of economic, trade and assistance related fields'.	Through the amendment of Regulation (EU) 2015/936, Commission proposed on 3 February 2016 to abolish the autonomous quotas for the import of textiles and clothing from Belarus, also considering their limited use and impact on trade.	Regulation (EU) 2017/354 of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2015/936 on common rules for imports of textile products from certain third countries not covered by bilateral agreements, protocols or other arrangements, or by other specific Union import rules was adopted on 15 February 2017 and published on 3 March.  A Dialogue on Trade with Belarus takes place twice a year in order to enhance cooperation and transparency on trade issues.
<b>KYRGYZSTAN</b>	College adopted joint recommendations to the Council on 2 June 2017	College authorised the Commission and the HRVP to negotiate a new agreement (Enhanced Partnership Cooperation Agreement) with the Kyrgyz Republic, building on the provisions of the existing PCA which dates from 1995. The Council has approved the negotiations directives on 9 October 2017. Negotiations have started, with a first 'political' round that took place on 19 December 2017.  The negotiations covering the trade and trade related chapters started in Kyrgyzstan on 28 February and 1 March.  The fifth round of negotiations of the Trade Part of the new agreement took place in Bishkek on 29-31 January 2019. The sixth round took place in Brussels on 2-5 April 2019.	The seventh round is being planned in the first week of June, depending on the advancement of the negotiations.
<b>UZBEKISTAN</b>	College adopted joint recommendations to the Council on 14 May 2018	Draft mandate will be in Council discussions during spring/summer 2018.	

<p><b>CHINA – Investment</b></p>	<p>The Council authorised the Commission to initiate negotiations for a comprehensive EU-China investment agreement on 18 October 2013.</p> <p>The mandate to launch negotiations on a new Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with China was approved by the Council in December 2005.</p>	<p>Negotiations of a comprehensive EU-China investment agreement were formally launched at the EU-China Summit of 21 November 2013 in Beijing. The aim of this agreement is to remove market access barriers to investment and provide a high level of protection to investors and investments in EU and China markets. It will replace the 26 existing Bilateral Investment Treaties between 27 individual EU Member States and China by one single comprehensive investment Agreement.</p> <p>In 2016 the EU and China negotiators reached clear conclusions on an ambitious and comprehensive scope for the EU-China investment agreement and established a joint negotiating text.</p> <p>The 21<sup>st</sup> round of negotiations took place in Beijing in the week of 10 June 2019.</p> <p>Separate negotiations with China for an upgrade of the 1985 Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement were launched in 2007 but have been stalled since 2011 due to divergences between the mandates and expectations of the parties.</p>	<p>Next round to be decided.</p>
<p><b>Services (TiSA)</b></p>	<p>In February 2013, the European Commission received from the Council its green light for negotiations on a new international agreement on trade in services. The negotiations cover all services sectors, including information and communication technology (ICT) services, logistics and transport, financial services and services for businesses.</p>	<p>The talks started formally in March 2013. 23 WTO members (including EU representing its 28 Member States) have taken part in the negotiations. By the end of 2016, most participants had indicated which of their services markets they were prepared to open and to what extent. 21 negotiation rounds took place.</p>	<p>Negotiations are paused since the US Presidential elections in November 2016, pending clarity in the US trade policy.</p>
<p><b>Green Goods</b></p>		<p>Since July 2014 the EU and 16 other members (see</p>	<p>Further steps to be determined.</p>

		below) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) have been negotiating an Environmental Goods Agreement (EGA) to remove barriers to trade in environmental or "green" goods that are crucial for environmental protection and climate change mitigation. The next, 18 <sup>th</sup> round took place in November and was followed by a Ministerial meeting in December 2016. Despite efforts, the deal could not yet be reached. <a href="#">Read more.</a>	
<b>TRADE IN AGRI-FOOD AND FISHERIES PRODUCTS with EEA/EFTA COUNTRIES</b>		<p><b>European Economic Area (EEA):</b> negotiations on further liberalisation for agricultural products are part of the EEA agreement (Art. 19).</p> <p><b>Iceland:</b> an EU-Iceland agreement on geographical indications (GI) and a separate agreement on further liberalisation of trade in basic agricultural products and processed agricultural products between Iceland and the EU entered into force on 1 May 2018.</p> <p><b>Norway:</b> negotiations on a GI agreement started in 2013 and are now on hold. Negotiations on further liberalisation of EU-Norway trade in agricultural products, which started in 2015, were concluded at negotiator's level in April 2017; the respective EU-Norway agreement entered into force on 1 October 2018.</p> <p>Switzerland: negotiations on further liberalisation of agricultural products started in 2008 and are on hold since 2009.</p> <p>Norway and Iceland: negotiations of fish quotas took place between January 2014 and July 2015 and were finalised on 17 July 2015.</p>	
<b>ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS WITH ANDORRA, MONACO AND SAN MARINO</b>		The Council authorised on 4 December 2014 negotiations "on one or several Association Agreement(s)" between the EU and Andorra, Monaco, San Marino (AMS). The main goal of these negotiations which started in 2016 is to allow AMS to participate in the internal market (four freedoms).	Negotiating sessions are scheduled to take place in Brussels in March, April, June, July and October 2019.

# THE STATE OF EU TRADE

