



OVERVIEW OF FTA AND OTHER TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Updated 25 November 2013 - For latest updates check highlighted countries or regions.

FTA NEGOTIATIONS

Country	Negotiating Directives	Current Status	Next Steps
---------	------------------------	----------------	------------

NORTH AMERICA

<p>USA</p>	<p>Negotiating directives obtained in June 2013</p>	<p>President Van Rompuy, President of the United States Obama, UK Prime minister Cameron, and European Commission President Barroso announced the official launch of the negotiations at the G8 summit in London on 17 June 2013.</p> <p>The first round of talks for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) took place in Washington between 8 and 12 July 2013.</p> <p>The second round took place during the week of 11-15 November 2013 in Brussels and negotiators discussed investment rules, trade in services, energy and raw materials, as well as a range of regulatory issues, including regulatory coherence, technical barriers to trade and sectoral approaches. Talks on public procurement took place before the planned October meeting. In addition to the physical meetings in Brussels, video conferences took place covering plant health and</p>	<p>A future meeting to discuss financial services regulation is scheduled in Brussels for 27 November.</p> <p>Video-conferences on tariffs and on sustainable development, including labour and environment, are planned for the coming weeks.</p> <p>The third round TTIP negotiation session is planned for the week (16-20 December 2013) in Washington.</p>
-------------------	---	---	---

		hygiene measures, intellectual property rights, competition policy and small and medium enterprises.	
--	--	--	--

CANADA	Negotiating directives obtained in April 2009	Negotiations were launched in May 2009. The negotiations are now in their final phase. Commissioner de Gucht and his Canadian counterpart Trade Minister Fast met on 22 November 2012 and on 6 and 7 February 2013 in Ottawa to take stock of the remaining open points.	The aim is to conclude the CETA negotiations by the end of 2013. Regular contacts take place at different levels to work out the final deal.
---------------	---	--	--

ASIA

ASEAN	Negotiating directives obtained in April 2007	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 will 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. The European Commission finalised the FTA negotiations with Singapore in December 2012 and pursues talks with other three partners in the ASEAN region. Please see below the information about each particular country.	The Commission continues exploratory informal talks with other individual ASEAN member states with a view to assess the level of ambition at bilateral level. A regional agreement remains the ultimate objective and should be facilitated once the creation of the ASEAN Economic Community, planned for 2015, is achieved.
SINGAPORE	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	The negotiations for a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement were completed in December 2012. The draft agreement was reviewed by legal teams from both sides and the EU and Singapore initialled the text of the FTA on 20 September 2013. Negotiations on investment protection, based on a new EU competence under the Lisbon Treaty, started later than the FTA talks and are still in progress.	The draft agreement needs now to be agreed upon by the Council of Ministers, and ratified by the European Parliament The procedures allowing the agreement to become effective are expected to be completed at the earliest by the fall 2014.
MALAYSIA	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	The negotiations were launched in Brussels in October 2010. The seventh round of FTA negotiations took place in Brussels in April 2012 and was followed by meetings of Technical Working Groups in a number of negotiating areas in Kuala Lumpur September 2012. The EU has reached the half-way point of the FTA negotiations with Malaysia. However, the most difficult issues remain to be resolved.	Following the general elections that took place in May 2013, Malaysia should now step up its level of ambition to allow for further progress in the negotiations.

VIETNAM	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	Commissioner De Gucht and Minister Hoang launched the FTA negotiations in June 2012. Five rounds of talks have taken place since then. Both sides seek a comprehensive agreement covering tariffs, non-tariff barriers as well as commitments on other trade related aspects, notably procurement, regulatory issues, competition, services, and sustainable development.	The negotiations have entered a substantial phase and the sixth round of negotiations will take place in Brussels in the week of 13 January 2014.
THAILAND	Based on 2007 ASEAN negotiating directives (see above)	The Council endorsed the launch of negotiations on an FTA with Thailand in February 2013. Both sides seek to negotiate a comprehensive agreement. The talks were officially launched in March. The second round of negotiations took place Chiangmai, Thailand between 16 and 20 September 2013.	Both sides aim to conclude as fast as possible. The third round will take place in Brussels between 9-13 December.
JAPAN		<p>The Council decided to give the Commission a green light to start trade negotiations with Japan in November 2012. Beforehand, after a period of intense preparatory talks, the EU and Japan agreed in May 2012 on a very ambitious agenda for the future negotiations (covering all EU market access priorities). Together with the negotiating agenda the EU and Japan established specific 'roadmaps' for the removal of non-tariff barriers and for the opening up of public procurement markets in the Japan's railways and urban transport.</p> <p>The negotiations started in March 2013 and two rounds of talks have taken place so far. The second round of negotiations took place during the last week of June in Tokyo. Fourteen working groups focused on various parts of the negotiated text including trade in goods, services, investment, competition, government procurement and sustainable development.</p>	<p>President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Council Herman van Rompuy and Trade Commissioner Karel De Gucht visited Japan for the 21st EU-Japan Summit on 19 November 2013. They held meetings with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzō Abe and other political and business leaders.</p> <p>The Summit was held against the background of two major agreements now being negotiated: the EU-Japan Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and the Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA). The FTA is an ambitious free trade agreement that is expected to stimulate growth and employment in the EU and in Japan.</p> <p>For the FTA as soon as possible both sides will present ambitious market access offers on trade in goods, trade in services and procurement, and will address the issues of non-tariff measures and railways.</p> <p>The fourth round will take place in early 2014.</p>

INDIA	Negotiating directives obtained in April 2007	Negotiations were launched in June 2007. After 11 full rounds the negotiations are now in a phase where negotiators meet in smaller, more targeted clusters rather than full rounds, i.e. expert level inter-sessional meetings, chief negotiator meetings and meetings at Director General level. On-going negotiations focus on market access for goods (to improve coverage of offers on both sides), the overall ambition of the services package and a meaningful chapter on government procurement.	Both sides are aiming to find solutions which are mutually acceptable to achieve an ambitious outcome which would give an important boost to trade between the EU and India.
--------------	---	---	--

LATIN AMERICA

ANDEAN COMMUNITY (Colombia and Peru)		The EU and its Andean partners – Colombia and Peru – finalised the negotiations in 2010. Following the necessary procedures on both sides, including an approval by the EU Council and the European Parliament, trade provisions of the agreement have been provisionally applied with Peru as of 1 March 2013 and with Colombia as of 1 August 2013.	Contacts are maintained to explore a possibility to integrate Ecuador and Bolivia, who are also members of the Andean Community, into the trade deal with the EU.
--	--	---	---

CENTRAL AMERICA (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama)		The EU concluded the negotiations for an Association agreement with Central America, including Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama in May 2010. Following a positive vote of the European Parliament and the signature of the Agreement in June 2012, the trade pillar of the agreement applies as of 1 August 2013 with Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama and from 1 October 2013, Costa Rica and El Salvador	The agreement with Guatemala – is expected to become effective in the coming months.
--	--	--	--

MERCOSUR	Negotiating Directives of 1999	<p>After the suspension of negotiations in 2004, negotiations with Mercosur were officially re-launched at the EU-Mercosur summit in Madrid in May 2010. The objective has been to negotiate a comprehensive FTA covering not only trade in industrial and agricultural goods but also other areas such as services, government procurement, intellectual property, customs and trade facilitation as well as removal of technical barriers to trade.</p> <p>Nine rounds of negotiation focusing on trade rules have taken</p>	At the occasion of the EU-Mercosur ministerial meeting that took place on 26 January 2013, in the margins of the EU-CELAC summit in Santiago, the two sides agreed to exchange market access offers on goods, services and government procurement no later than the last quarter of 2013. Work on the offers is on-going on both sides.
-----------------	--------------------------------	--	---

		place since then (the last one from 22 to 26 October 2012 in Brasilia).	
--	--	---	--

SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN & MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES

<p>GENERAL OVERVIEW (see below for information on particular countries)</p>		<p>The EU has established a network of Association Agreements, which include reciprocal FTAs essentially limited to trade in goods, with 8 countries of the region (all except Libya and Syria). . In order to promote broader regional integration, the EU also encourages the countries of the region to agree FTAs between themselves and has promoted wide participation in the Pan-Euro Mediterranean system of cumulation for rules of origin (in which EFTA and Western Balkans countries also participate).</p> <p>Under the framework of the Association Agreements, a series of bilateral negotiations have been launched with individual partners to complement and expand these agreements in areas such as agriculture, industrial standards, dispute settlement and services and establishment. A number of these free-standing negotiations have been successfully concluded, while others are continuing and, where appropriate, may be absorbed into DCFTA negotiations.</p> <p>On 14th 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.</p>	
<p>TRADE IN SERVICES AND ESTABLISHMENT</p>		<p>Negotiations on the liberalisation of trade in services and establishment: Discussions in 2006-2007 took place at regional Euro-Mediterranean format. In 2008, bilateral negotiations started with Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia and Israel.</p>	<p>No negotiations currently on-going. Services and establishment would form part of the negotiating agenda for DCFTAs with Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia.</p>

TRADE IN AGRI-FOOD AND FISHERIES PRODUCTS		Negotiations on further liberalisation for agricultural, processed agricultural and fisheries products were concluded with Jordan in 2005, Israel and Egypt in 2008 (entry into force in 2010), and Morocco (concluded in 2009, entry into force on 1st October 2012). Negotiations are on hold with Tunisia.	Negotiations are on hold with Tunisia. Further negotiations in this area would form part of the negotiating agenda for DCFTAs with Egypt, Jordan, and Tunisia.
DISPUTE SETTLEMENT MECHANISM		Negotiations concluded with Tunisia, (agreement signed in December 2009 and into force since September 2011), Lebanon (signed in 2010), Jordan (in force since July 2011), Morocco (in force since November 2012) and Egypt (signed in 2010). Negotiations are on hold with other Mediterranean partners (Algeria, Israel and Palestine).	No negotiations currently on-going.
AGREEMENTS ON CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS (ACAA)		Negotiations on Agreements on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products (ACAA): Agreement signed with Israel in May 2010 (entry into force January 2013) in the pharmaceutical sector. Preparations are on-going to launch negotiations in the near future with other Southern Mediterranean partners.	No negotiations currently on-going. Preparations are advanced with Tunisia, Jordan and Morocco.

CUNTRY OVERVIEW			
MOROCCO	Negotiating directives for a DCFTA adopted by the Council on 14 th 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). Two rounds have taken place so far. Discussions advanced well on all issues and texts for nearly all chapters are on the table.</p> <p>Morocco agreed also to integrate the bilateral negotiations on trade in services which have been on-going since 2008 into the broader DCFTA negotiations.</p>	DCFTA negotiations are actively engaged. The aim is to reach an agreement that will extend significantly beyond the scope of the existing Association Agreement to include trade in services, government procurement, competition, intellectual property rights, investment protection and the gradual integration of the Moroccan economy into the EU single market, for example in areas like industrial standards and technical regulations or sanitary and phytosanitary measures.

EGYPT	Negotiating directives for a DCFTA adopted by the Council on 14 th December 2011	<p>The EU-Egypt Association Agreement entered into force in June 2004. An Agreement on further liberalisation of trade in agricultural products entered into force in June 2010. The EU and Egypt signed also in November 2010 a protocol establishing a dispute settlement mechanism: this will enter into force once ratified by Egypt.</p> <p>Bilateral negotiations on liberalisation of trade in services and establishment are on hold.</p>	Following exploratory discussions in 2012, a dialogue on the DCFTA was launched in June 2013. No other meetings are foreseen at this stage.
ISRAEL		<p>The EU-Israel Association Agreement entered into force in June 2000. An Agreement on further liberalisation of trade in agriculture entered into force in 2010. An agreement on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products (ACAA) concerning the pharmaceutical sector entered into force in January 2013.</p>	Bilateral negotiations on the liberalisation of trade in services and establishment are on hold.
JORDAN	Negotiating directives for a DCFTA adopted by the Council on 14 th December 2011	<p>The EU-Jordan Association Agreement was signed in November 1997 and entered into force in May 2002. An Agreement on further liberalisation of trade in agriculture entered into force in 2007 and a protocol on Dispute Settlement Mechanism entered into force in July 2011.</p> <p>The preparatory scoping exercise for negotiations on a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTAs) is on-going. Three meetings (March 2012, April and November 2013) have been held to date and the process is quite advanced.</p>	<p>Liberalisation of trade in services and establishment negotiations will be negotiated as part of the DCFTA.</p> <p>Once the preparatory scoping process for a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) is completed, a decision will be taken on whether to launch formal negotiations.</p>
LEBANON		<p>The EU-Lebanon Association Agreement was signed in June 2002 and entered into force in April 2006. In November 2010, the EU and Lebanon signed also a protocol on a Dispute Settlement Mechanism. This will enter into force once approved by Lebanon. Negotiations for Lebanon's accession to the WTO are on-going.</p>	No negotiations on-going on liberalisation of trade in services and establishment or on further liberalisation of trade in agriculture.
ALGERIA		<p>The EU-Algeria Association Agreement was signed in April 2002 and entered into force in September 2005.</p> <p>Negotiations for Algeria's accession to the WTO are on-going.</p>	No additional negotiations on agricultural, processed agricultural and fisheries products, on liberalisation of trade in services and establishment or on a Dispute Settlement Protocol.
Palestine		<p>The EU-Palestinian Authority Interim Association Agreement was signed in February 1997 and entered into force in July 1997. An agreement on further liberalisation of trade in agriculture, processed agricultural products and fisheries products entered</p>	No negotiations on-going on liberalisation of trade in services and establishment or on Dispute Settlement Mechanism.

		into force in January 2012. This provides for duty-free, quota-free access to the EU.	
SYRIA	Negotiating directives for an association agreement with Syria adopted on 18 December 1997	Negotiations concluded in 2004. Following technical adaptation, the text was initialled in December 2008 and adopted by the Council on 27 October 2009. However, the signature has been put on hold by the EU for political reasons.	In view of the political situation, the EU has adopted since May 2011 a number of restrictive measures towards Syria and partially suspended the application of the Cooperation Agreement of 1978. Signature of the Association Agreement remains on hold. In April 2013, the Council eased certain sanctions against Syria so as to help the civilian population and support the opposition.
TUNISIA	Negotiating directives for a DCFTA adopted by the Council on 14 th December 2011	The EU-Tunisia Association Agreement was signed in July 1995 and entered into force in March 1998. A protocol establishing a Dispute Settlement Mechanism entered into force in April 2013. A preparatory process for launching negotiations on a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTAs) is on-going.	Bilateral negotiations on the liberalisation of trade in services and establishment will be integrated into the DCFTA. It remains open whether bilateral negotiations on agriculture will be similarly integrated into the DCFTA. Two meetings of the preparatory process for the negotiations of a DCFTA took place (March and October 2012). No other meeting is currently scheduled.

LIBYA	Negotiating directive for a Framework Agreement with Libya July 2008.	Negotiations for a framework agreement incorporating an FTA were launched on 12-13 November 2008. The two sides were discussing an ambitious FTA including trade in goods, trade in services/establishment, trade rules, regulatory cooperation, and dispute settlement. The negotiations were however suspended in February 2011.	A preliminary process to prepare the resumption of bilateral negotiations with the new Libyan authorities is under consideration.
-------	---	--	---

Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)		Negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement made considerable progress, reaching a very advanced stage, but were suspended due to sharp differences over the few remaining issues. Informal contacts have taken place to test whether a basis can nonetheless be found to conclude negotiations.	No next steps foreseen.
--------------------------------	--	--	-------------------------

EASTERN NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNTRIES

UKRAINE		Negotiations for a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), as part of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, were concluded in December 2011. A technical initialling of the EU-Ukraine DCFTA took place on 19 July 2012 in Brussels. This	A political decision for the signing of the Agreement, possibly in November during the third Eastern Partnership Summit in Vilnius to be held on 28-29 November, 2013 will be taken provided Ukraine fulfils
----------------	--	---	--

		technical step completes the earlier initialling of the overall EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, which took place on 30 March 2012. On 15 May 2013, the Commission adopted and transmitted to the Council the proposal for a) a Council decision on the signing and the provisional application and b) a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement.	the political conditions set out in the Council conclusions of the Foreign Affairs Council of December 2012.
--	--	--	--

GEORGIA		In July 2013, the EU concluded the talks at technical level for a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area with Georgia. The agreement negotiated in just 17 months and seven rounds will see Georgia gaining better access to the EU market for its goods and services. The FTA also sets a path for further reforms in trade-related policies, such as hygiene standards for agricultural products and the approximation of regulations for industrial products.	The text is being fine-tuned and prepared for initialling.
----------------	--	--	--

ARMENIA		The negotiations on the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) were launched in May 2012. After seven rounds of talks, parties concluded the talks at technical level on 24 July 2013.	Scope of future cooperation is being assessed following Armenia's declaration on joining the Customs Union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan.
----------------	--	--	---

MOLDOVA		The final seventh round of negotiations took place between 11 and 12 June 2013 in Chisinau. Parties concluded negotiations for a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) at technical level. The DCFTA foresees a removal of customs duties on trade in goods. It further provides for removal of obstacles to trade in services and better access for companies to establish in respective markets.	Text is being fine-tuned and prepared for initialling.
----------------	--	---	--

ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries)

See Overview of EPAs (Economic Partnership Agreements)			
---	--	--	--

OTHER TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Country	Negotiating Directives	Current Status	Next Steps
AZERBAIJAN	Directives for the negotiation of an Association Agreement between the EU and Azerbaijan were adopted by the Council on 10 May 2010.	No mandate/negotiations for an FTA. On-going negotiations for an enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) to replace and update the current PCA in force, including its trade and investment related provisions.	4 rounds of negotiations took place, followed with videoconferences in 2012. Negotiations of the Association Agreement (including trade part) continue in 2013.
BELARUS	The Council authorises the Commission to open negotiation on a new Agreement renewing the Agreement on Trade in Textile Products with the Republic of Belarus in September 2009.	Considering formation of a customs union of Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus, Belarus does not currently see a possibility of extending the bilateral textile agreement.	The bilateral agreement expired by 31 December 2009. The Commission adopted a regulation introducing unilateral measures that entered into force on 1 January 2011.
CHINA	The Council authorised the Commission to initiate negotiations for a comprehensive EU-China investment agreement on 18 October 2013. The mandate to launch negotiations on a new Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with China was approved by the Council in December 2005.	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 27 existing Bilateral Investment Treaties between individual EU Member States with China by one single comprehensive EU investment Agreement. 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.	The first round of EU-China investment agreement negotiations should take place at the end 2013 or early 2014 (date still to be agreed).

IRAN	Negotiating directives for a Trade and Cooperation Agreement were adopted in June 2002.	Several rounds of negotiations took place until 2005, when they were put on hold as a result of Iran's intensification of its nuclear activities. The EU imposed also trade sanctions on Iran that are still in place.	The regulatory framework for commercial restrictions is continuously updated. No negotiations are currently foreseen.
IRAQ	Negotiating Directives for a Trade and Cooperation Agreement adopted in March 2006	The EU-Iraq Partnership and Cooperation Agreement was signed on 11 May 2012. Its trade provisions entered into force on 1 August 2012 as part of a provisional application (while ratification procedures for the whole agreement continue). The Agreement is MFN based and does not give Iraq preferential access to the EU market.	The first meeting of the Trade Sub-Committee with Iraq took place in October 2013. The EU supports Iraq's objective of negotiating its accession to WTO.
KAZAKHSTAN	Council Negotiating directives to update the current Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA)	No mandate/negotiations for an FTA. The on-going negotiations for an enhanced PCA aim at upgrading the current PCA including trade and investment provisions.	The 4th negotiating round took place in Astana, on 9 and 10 October 2013 (but the Kazakh side asked to exclude trade talks from that round due to lack of available resources). The next round of negotiations is planned to take place in March 2014 in Brussels.
RUSSIA	Council Negotiating Directives in 2008 for a new Agreement to update and extend the current framework for EU/Russia relations under the existing Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA)	<p>No mandate/negotiations for an FTA. Negotiations for a New Agreement to replace and update the existing PCA, including trade and investment provisions have been stalled.</p> <p>The 12th formal round of negotiations took place in mid-December 2010. The chief negotiators agreed that work should focus on the trade and investment provisions and until there is sufficient progress in this area the working groups covering non-trade areas of the New Agreement will not be convened. An informal Drafting Group has met 11 times (the last time in March 2012) to discuss the two draft legal texts on horizontal trade and investment provisions, which the EU submitted in two batches in July 2010 and March 2011.</p> <p>Differences remain on the contents of the Trade and Investment chapter. While the EU has agreed not to cover market access issues as the agreement is non-preferential and to focus on regulatory convergence the positions still differ on the level of ambition for the chapter. The fact that the Eurasian Economic Commission has acquired several competencies in the area of trade is an additional complication for the bilateral negotiations.</p>	

		Moreover because as of 1 January 2015 the level of integration of the Eurasian Union should be such that Russia would not be able anymore to negotiate directly with the EU as trade would become an exclusive competence of the Eurasian Union.	
--	--	--	--

