The EU Mission to the WTO

What we do

The EU Mission to the World Trade Organization (WTO) represents the interests of the EU and its 28 member states in the daily work of the WTO. This includes the regular work of the WTO, as well as related trade negotiations.

The EU Mission is part of the European External Action Service (EEAS) established following the Lisbon Treaty of 2007.

The Permanent Delegation of the EU to the United Nations Office and other international organisations in Geneva deals with other international organisations in Geneva whereas the Delegation of the European Union in Bern focuses on bilateral relations with Switzerland.

Ambassador

Dear visitor,
Thank you for your interest in the work of the Permanent Mission of the European Union to the World Trade Organization (WTO).

As laid down by Treaty, the European Union institutions have exclusive competence over international trade policy.

The European Union continues to play a key role in trade matters, including multilaterally in the WTO. As the world's largest trading entity, and the single largest provider of Aid for Trade, the EU, speaking with one voice in the WTO, will continue to play an active leadership role in identifying and promoting ways to advance the international trading system and the WTO, be it in the day-to-day work of the organization or in any negotiations taking place.

While its regular work and the dispute settlement system operate well, the WTO has struggled over the past twenty years to achieve outcomes in negotiations to expand market access and other disciplines. However, the WTO's 10th Ministerial Conference in Nairobi in December 2015 saw agreement on a number of important issues, including export competition in the area of agriculture, as well as decisions specifically for the benefit of least-developed countries. The Ministerial Conference also formally completed the accession to the WTO of two new least-developed country members, Afghanistan and Liberia. These results add further to the ones resulting from the 9th Ministerial Conference in Bali (December 2013).

Looking ahead it will now be for WTO members to decide on the priorities for future negotiations for multilateral trade liberalisation and adoption of new disciplines on trade-related issues reflecting the economic realities and needs of today. The EU remains committed to playing an active leadership role in this respect.

This website provides you with information on EU trade policy, in particular as it relates to the WTO. Further information on EU policies and activities is accessible through the Europa gateway.

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Your comments, questions, and suggestions on our work in Geneva are welcome.

You can contact us directly at delegation-geneva-wto@eeas.europa.eu

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Ambassador and Permanent Representative

Read more about

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