



# OVERVIEW OF FTA AND OTHER TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Updated 8 July 2014 - For latest updates check **highlighted** countries or regions.

## FTA NEGOTIATIONS

Country	Negotiating Directives	Current Status	Next Steps
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>			
<b>USA</b>	Negotiating directives obtained in June 2013	<p>Three negotiating rounds took place in July, November and December 2013. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> rounds took place in Brussels and Washington in March and May 2014 respectively.</p> <p>EU Trade Commissioner Karel De Gucht and US Trade Representative Ambassador Michael Froman held a political stocktaking meeting early in 2014.</p>	The 6 <sup>th</sup> round of negotiations is scheduled to take place in July 2014 in Brussels.
<b>CANADA</b>	Negotiating directives obtained in April 2009	A political agreement with Canada on the key elements of CETA was reached on 18th October 2013.	The technical negotiating teams of both sides remain in close contact in order to bring the elements of the political breakthrough into the legal text and finalise the negotiation as regards the remaining open technical and legal issues. The objective is to conclude the negotiations in the first half of 2014.

## ASIA

<b>ASEAN</b>	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)	<p>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. The text of the draft agreement is available on DG Trade's website.</p> <p>The text of the draft agreement is currently being translated into all EU languages.</p> <p>Negotiations on investment protection, based on a new EU competence under the Lisbon Treaty, started later than the FTA talks and are close to conclusion.</p>	<p>The draft agreement needs now to be formally approved by the European Commission and then agreed upon by the Council of Ministers, and ratified by the European Parliament</p> <p>The procedures allowing the agreement to become effective are expected to be completed at the earliest towards the end of 2014.</p>
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. Seven 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	The negotiations have entered a substantial phase. The eighth round is scheduled from 23-27 June in Brussels. Both sides aim to conclude swiftly.

		issues, competition, services, and sustainable development.	
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 covering, inter alia, tariffs, non-tariffs, services, investment, procurement, intellectual property, competition, regulatory issues and sustainable development. The talks were officially launched in March. . Four rounds have taken place so far. The last meeting took place on 8-10 April 2014 in Brussels.	No FTA rounds have been scheduled.
<b>JAPAN</b>		<p>The Council gave the Commission the green light to start trade negotiations with Japan in November 2012. After a period of intense preparatory talks the EU and Japan had 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 five rounds of talks have taken place so far. The fifth round of negotiations were held in early April 2014 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 21<sup>st</sup> EU-Japan Summit on 19 November 2013. They held meetings with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzō Abe and other political and business leaders.</p> <p>During Prime Minister Abe's visit to Europe the 22<sup>nd</sup> EU-Japan Summit was held on 7 May 2014 in Brussels. Mr Abe met President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso and President of the European Council Herman van Rompuy.</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 the EU and Japan have already exchanged market access offers on trade in goods. It is expected that offers on services and investment will be exchanged in the near future. As set out in the negotiating directives a review of Japan's implementation of its commitments on the elimination of NTBs is currently under way.</p>

<b>INDIA</b>	Negotiating directives obtained in April 2007	Negotiations were launched in June 2007, and there were 11 full rounds the negotiations as well as smaller, more targeted clusters rather than full rounds, i.e. expert level inter-sessional meetings, chief negotiator meetings and meetings at higher 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 and sustainable development.	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.
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### LATIN AMERICA

<b>ANDEAN COMMUNITY</b> (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. In January 2014 the negotiations resumed with Ecuador in view of its potential accession to the Agreement.	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.
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<b>MERCOSUR</b>	Negotiating Directives of 1999	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.  Nine rounds of negotiation focusing on trade rules have taken place since then (the last one from 22 to 26 October 2012 in Brasilia).  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	At a meeting on 21 March 2014, EU and Mercosur chief negotiators discussed the state of play of the preparations of the market access offers to be exchanged  Work on the finalisation of the offers is on-going on both sides and an agreement on a new date for the exchange of offers is pending
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		no later than the last quarter of 2013.	
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### **SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN & MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES**

<p><b>GENERAL OVERVIEW</b> (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><b>TRADE IN SERVICES AND ESTABLISHMENT</b></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 negotiation is currently on-going</p>

<b>TRADE IN AGRI-FOOD AND FISHERIES PRODUCTS</b>		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.
<b>DISPUTE SETTLEMENT MECHANISM</b>		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 negotiation is currently on-going.
<b>AGREEMENTS ON CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS (ACAA)</b>		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.

<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). 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 <sup>th</sup> 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 association Agreement is in force since 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 has been in force since 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 <sup>th</sup> 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>A preparatory process for launching negotiations on a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTAs) is on-going.</p>	<p>Liberalisation of trade in services and establishment negotiations will be negotiated as part of the DCFTA.</p> <p>The preparatory process for launching negotiations of a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTAs) is quite advanced. Three meetings took place (March 2012, April and November 2013)</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 Association Agreement was signed in February 1997. The Interim Agreement entered into force in July 1997 and a duty-free quota-free agreement for agriculture, processed agricultural products and fisheries products entered into force in January 2012.</p>	No negotiations on-going on liberalisation of trade in services and establishment or on Dispute Settlement Mechanism under way.

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 <sup>th</sup> December 2011	The EU signed an Association Agreement with Tunisia in July 1995. The Agreement entered into force in March 1998.  In December 2009, the EU signed also an agreement on Dispute Settlement Mechanism that entered into force in September 2011.  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. For bilateral negotiations on agriculture, the issue of the integration or not in the DCFTA negotiation remains open. Two meetings of the preparatory process for the negotiations of a DCFTA took place (March and October 2012). The third preparatory meeting will take place on the 19 <sup>th</sup> of June in Tunis.

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.
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Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)		The negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement as such have been suspended, but informal discussions are going on; the process has been very advanced on all elements of the Agreement. The objective is to conclude negotiations as soon as possible.	No next steps foreseen.
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#### **EASTERN NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNTRIES**

<b>UKRAINE</b>		Negotiations for a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), as part of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, were concluded in 2011. After a long process, the political provisions of the Association Agreement were signed in Brussels on 21 March 2014. The remaining provisions, including the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), forming a single	EU and Ukraine prepare for the implementation of the parts of the Association Agreement -such as the DCFTA- open for provisional application.
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		instrument with the political ones, were signed on 27 June 2014 in Brussels. Their provisional application of the relevant parts of the AA/DCFTA is foreseen after the completion of the ratification process in Ukraine.	
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<b>GEORGIA</b>		The Association Agreement, including the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), was signed between the EU and Georgia on 27 June 2014 in Brussels. It will enter provisionally into force in the autumn 2014, exact date to be confirmed.	EU and Georgia prepare for the implementation of the Association Agreement, including the DCFTA.
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<b>MOLDOVA</b>		Negotiations for a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) between the EU and the Republic of Moldova were concluded in June 2013.. The DCFTA will bring better access for Moldovan goods and services to the EU market which will gradually open further whilst Moldova delivers on agreed reforms in trade related matters. On 29 November 2013, the EU initialled the Association agreement with Moldova, which includes provisions establishing the DCFTA. The Association Agreement, including the DCFTA part, is now in preparation for signature which should happen at the end of June 2014.	
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#### ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries)

<a href="#">See Overview of EPAs</a> (Economic Partnership Agreements)			
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## OTHER TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Country	Negotiating Directives	Current Status	Next Steps
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<b>AZERBAIJAN</b>	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, followed with videoconferences in 2012 and technical meeting in 2013 took place.. Negotiations of the Association Agreement (including trade part) continue in 2014.
<b>BELARUS</b>	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.
<b>CHINA</b>	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 26 existing Bilateral Investment Treaties between 27 individual EU Member States and China by one single comprehensive EU investment Agreement.  The first round of EU-China investment agreement negotiations took place on 21-23 January 2014 in Beijing. A second round took place in Brussels on 24-25 March 2014  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 third round of negotiations will take place in Beijing on 17-19 June 2014.
<b>IRAN</b>	Negotiating directives for	Several rounds of negotiations took place until 2005,	The regulatory framework for commercial restrictions is

	a Trade and Cooperation Agreement were adopted in June 2002.	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.	continuously updated. No negotiations are currently foreseen.
<b>IRAQ</b>	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.
<b>KAZAKHSTAN</b>	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 5th negotiating round took place in Brussels, on 18 and 19 March 2014. The trade talks took place in April 2014. The next round of negotiations takes place in May 2014 in Astana.
<b>RUSSIA</b>	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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 to not 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>	

		<p>In January 2014, the Russian negotiators confirmed that Russia has a new mandate for the New Agreement and expressed readiness to resume the negotiations and to submit the related Russian position in the coming months. No comment has been received yet though Russia promised to send them by the end of February.</p> <p>The European council decided, in its conclusions of 6 March, to suspend the bilateral talks on the New Agreement.</p>	
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