



## EU TRADE

The latest on EU trade

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### Flash News

#### **EU puts forward its candidate for the pool of arbitrators in the multi-party interim appeal arbitration arrangement and encourages more WTO members to join**

The EU has nominated Prof. Joost H. B. Pauwelyn as its candidate for the pool of 10 standing arbitrators for the multi-party interim appeal arbitration arrangement (MPIA), a stopgap solution in the absence of an operational WTO Appellate Body. All MPIA participants have the possibility to put forward a candidate, with the final list of arbitrators agreed by consensus among the participants. The aim is to have the pool of 10 standing arbitrators drawn up by the end of July 2020, allowing them to deal, if necessary, with any appeals between MPIA participants. Commissioner for Trade, Phil Hogan, has also written to the trade ministers of over 100 WTO members, inviting them to join the MPIA.

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#### **WTO statement highlighting the importance of MSMEs in the time of COVID-19**

On 14 May 2020, the EU and 47 other members issued a statement highlighting the importance of MSMEs in the time of COVID-19.

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### Commissioner Speech

#### **Intro remarks by Commissioner Phil Hogan at Second G20 Extraordinary Trade and Investment Ministers Meeting on COVID-19**

In his introductory remarks at the Second G20 Extraordinary Trade and Investment Ministers Meeting on COVID-19 on 14 May 2020, Commissioner Phil Hogan highlighted the need for coordinated action between countries and regions if the exit from Covid-19 is to be coherent and lasting.

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### Public Consultations

#### **Online Public Consultation on a new Regulation establishing the European Union's Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP)**

The EU's Generalised Scheme of Preference (GSP) removes import duties from products coming into the EU market from vulnerable developing countries. This helps developing countries to alleviate poverty and create jobs based on international values and principles, including labour and human rights. Exports to the EU from developing countries using special tariffs under the EU GSP reached a new high of 69 billion Euro in 2018. The purpose of the present consultation is to gather input to the Commission's work to prepare a future proposal to the Council and Parliament for a regulation to replace the current GSP Regulation upon its expiry on 31 December 2023. Kindly note that the deadline for providing input is 3 June 2020.

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## Calls for tender

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### **Call for Expressions of Interest to be part of the list of vendors to be invited to tender for contracts related to economic analysis of trade policy**

The European Commission has published a call for expression of interest to facilitate the procurement of studies and analytical work in the area of trade, the potential development of analytical tools for trade policy, carrying out trade policy related surveys and peer reviews. Kindly note that this call remains open until 2 December 2022.

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[Commissioner Phil Hogan's website](#)

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