

Declaration on international trade: CETA ratification pivotal to future of EU agenda

Today, on the eve of the European Parliament's crucial vote on the CETA agreement with Canada, EUROCHAMBRES and national Chambers from across Europe sent a strong call to EU leaders and governments to stand firmly for an inclusive and forward-looking EU trade agenda while warning that recent complications around the deal have showcased that the effectiveness of a common commercial policy is at stake.

The CETA agreement has acquired added importance given the unprecedented levels of uncertainty about global trade and the future of the rules-based international trading system.

EUROCHAMBRES' members thus reiterate the importance for Europe to speak with one voice on common commercial policy to revive long-stalled negotiations with partners in key emerging markets and to protect European businesses and citizens from the consequences of unfair trade.

Arnaldo Abruzzini, CEO of EUROCHAMBRES, stated: *"The world trading order is under the heaviest strain in recent history. In these times, Europe needs to rally behind an ambitious, inclusive and forward-looking common commercial policy. CETA is a case in point and its adoption by the European Parliament would send a positive message to the world that Europe stands for free, fair and inclusive trade."*

The European Chambers' Joint Declaration on International Trade can be downloaded from <http://bit.ly/2I0JGRV>

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