



The Future of the EU – Ukraine Trade Relations

Debate – Wednesday, 26 March, from 16H00 to 17H30
European Parliament, Brussels

Programme

WELCOME

Niels Flemming Hansen MEP

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy; Committee on the Environment, Climate and Food Safety; Committee on Public Health

STRATEGIC PERSPECTIVES

H.E. Vsevolod Chentsov (TBC)

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Head of the Mission of Ukraine to the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community

Sabine Weyand (TBC)

Director General, DG Trade, European Commission

Tobias Ketterer (TBC)

Member of Cabinet of Kaja Kallas, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission

PRESENTATION OF THE STUDY "THE FUTURE OF THE EU-UKRAINE TRADE RELATIONS"

Seyide Direk

Policy Analyst with the European Enterprise Alliance

REACTIONS & INTERVENTIONS

Marcin Nowacki

EESC Member, Employers' Group; President of the European Enterprise Alliance

Nazar Bobitski

Director, EU Office, Ukrainian Agribusiness Club (UCAB)

Svitlana Taran (TBC)

Research Fellow, European Policy Center

TBA

Federation of Employers Ukraine

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Sandra Kalniete MEP (TBC)

Committee on Foreign Affairs; Committee on International Trade; Delegation to the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee

MODERATION

Horst Heitz

Executive Director of SME Europe; Chair of the Steering Committee of SME Connect

ABOUT THE DEBATE

The future of trade relations between the EU and Ukraine is at a critical juncture, shaped by evolving economic dynamics, policy adjustments, and the ongoing challenges facing Ukraine. A key aspect of this relationship is the role of Autonomous Trade Measures (ATMs), which provide crucial economic support to Ukraine during a period of instability. As discussions continue, policymakers and stakeholders are evaluating the potential next steps for these measures, considering options such as extending the current framework, introducing enhanced safeguards, or selectively modifying trade agreements under the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA).

A central issue in this debate is finding a balance between supporting Ukraine's economic recovery and addressing concerns within the EU, particularly in sensitive sectors like agriculture. The impact of trade liberalization on small farmers across the EU, as well as the need for sustainable agricultural cooperation, has prompted calls for flexible and responsive trade policies. Real-time data monitoring and adaptive mechanisms could ensure trade flows remain both beneficial and manageable for all parties involved.

Beyond immediate trade measures, strengthening transport and logistics infrastructure is also a critical factor in facilitating smoother EU-Ukraine trade. Addressing these logistical challenges is essential to ensuring a resilient and efficient supply chain, particularly as both sides navigate the uncertainties of the current geopolitical landscape.

Our Roundtable aims to provide a comprehensive dialogue on creating a resilient and mutually beneficial trade relationship, contributing to regional stability and economic growth for both parties at this crucial moment.

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