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The  
G20 Research Group  
at Trinity College at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy  
in the University of Toronto  
presents the

## **2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Interim Compliance Report**

8 July 2017 to 9 January/5 March 2018\*

Prepared by  
Sophie Barnett, Hélène Emorine and the G20 Research Group, Toronto,  
and Irina Popova, Andrey Sheleпов, Andrei Sakharov and Alexander Ignatov and the  
Center for International Institutions Research  
of the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration,  
Moscow

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[www.g20.utoronto.ca](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca)  
[g20@utoronto.ca](mailto:g20@utoronto.ca)

“The University of Toronto ... produced a detailed analysis to the extent of which each G20 country has met its commitments since the last summit ... I think this is important; we come to these summits, we make these commitments, we say we are going to do these things and it is important that there is an organisation that checks up on who has done what.”

— *David Cameron, Prime Minister, United Kingdom, at the 2012 Los Cabos Summit*

\* Note: For seven commitments, the assessment period was from 8 July 2017 to 9 January; for the remaining 10 commitments, the assessment period extended to 5 March 2018.

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## 10. Trade: Trade and Investment Frameworks

“We will keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.”

*G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Shaping an Interconnected World*

### Assessment

Country	Lack of Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India		0	
Indonesia			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico			+1
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa			+1
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.70	

### Background

Trade is one of the core missions of the G20, as it directly contributes to economic recovery and growth. A key motivation for the establishment of the G20 was the rapid expansion of international trade with the transition from closed and centrally planned economies to open-market economies.<sup>3481</sup> Since its inception, the G20 has continuously committed to lowering trade barriers and emphasized the importance of open markets.

The G20 affirmed its commitment against protectionism in response to the 2008 financial crisis. At the 2008 Washington Summit, the G20 members committed to “rejecting protectionism and not turning inward in times of financial uncertainty.”<sup>3482</sup>

<sup>3481</sup> The Group of Twenty: A History, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 2008. Access Date: 29 October 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/docs/g20history.pdf>.

<sup>3482</sup> Declaration of the Summit on Financial Markets and the World Economy, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 November 2008. Access Date: 02 November 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2008/2008declaration1115.html>.

At the 2009 Pittsburgh Summit, the G20 committed to “global standards consistently in a way that ensures a level playing field and avoids fragmentation of markets, protectionism, and regulatory arbitrage.”<sup>3483</sup>

At the 2010 Toronto Summit, the G20 committed “to renew for a further three years, until the end of 2013, our commitment to refrain from raising barriers or imposing new barriers to investment or trade in goods and services, imposing new export restrictions or implementing World Trade Organization (WTO)-inconsistent measures to stimulate exports, and commit to rectify such measures as they arise.”<sup>3484</sup>

At the 2012 Los Cabos Summit, the G20 committed to “reaffirm our standstill commitment until the end of 2014 with regard to measures affecting trade and investment.”<sup>3485</sup> At the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit, the G20 agreed to “reaffirm [its] commitment to roll back new protectionist measures.”<sup>3486</sup> This was renewed in 2014. At the 2015 Antalya Summit, the G20 recommitted to “resist all forms of protectionism.”<sup>3487</sup>

At the 2016 G20 Hangzhou Summit, the G20 members committed to “build an open world economy, reject protectionism, promote global trade and investment, including through further strengthening the multilateral trading system, and ensure broad-based opportunities through and public support for expanded growth in a globalized economy.”<sup>3488</sup> At the 2016 G20 Hangzhou Summit, the G20 adopted the G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth “as an integral part of G20’s efforts to achieve our ambition of 2 per cent additional growth by 2018 set by G20 leaders in Brisbane in 2014, and as part of its broader efforts to strengthen global growth and to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).”<sup>3489</sup> This strategy aims to lower trade costs, harness trade and investment policy coherence, boost trade in services, enhance trade finance and promote e-commerce development.<sup>3490</sup> The G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth includes the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.<sup>3491</sup> These non-binding principles aim to foster an open, transparent and conducive global policy environment for investment, promote coherence in national and international investment policymaking, and promote inclusive economic growth and sustainable development.<sup>3492</sup>

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<sup>3483</sup> G20 Leaders’ Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 — 25 September 2009. Access Date: 2 November 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0925.html>.

<sup>3484</sup> The G20 Toronto Summit Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2010. Access Date: 2 November 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communique.html>.

<sup>3485</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 June 2012. Access Date: 2 November 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2012/2012-0619-loscabos.html>.

<sup>3486</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 2 November 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html>.

<sup>3487</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communique, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 2 November 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communique.html>.

<sup>3488</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communique: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 2 November 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communique.html>.

<sup>3489</sup> Annex II: G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 2016. Access Date: October 29, 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160710-trade-annex2.html>.

<sup>3490</sup> Annex II: G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 2016. Access Date: 29 October 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160710-trade-annex2.html>.

<sup>3491</sup> Annex III: G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 2016. Access Date: 29 October 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160710-trade-annex3.html>.

<sup>3492</sup> Annex III: G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 2016. Access Date: 29 October 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160710-trade-annex3.html>.

On 30 June 2017, the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the UN Committee on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) published the Report on G20 Trade and Investment Measures.<sup>3493</sup> The report found that between October 2016 and May 2017, G20 members approved 42 new trade-restrictive measures. The reports also found that 42 new measures aimed at facilitating trade were applied. This continues a “declining trend in the application of trade facilitating measures observed in 2016.”<sup>3494</sup> The report furthermore asserts that the trade coverage of import-facilitating measures exceeded that of import-restrictive measures.<sup>3495</sup> The report concludes that the G20 must “show leadership in reiterating their commitment to open and mutually beneficial trade as a key driver of economic growth and a major engine for prosperity.”<sup>3496</sup>

At the 2017 Hamburg Summit, the G20 committed to “keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.”<sup>3497</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

This commitment is divided into two parts: keeping markets open and fighting protectionism.

#### **Part One: Keeping Markets Open**

Keeping markets open includes two components: reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination.

“Reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks” refers to establishing proper contexts to allow for the foundation of trade, meaning all parties involved in a trade benefit from the exchange.<sup>3498</sup> The G20 is following a core concept of the WTO, which was manifested in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which is the WTO’s principal rulebook on trade.<sup>3499</sup> A G20 member, thus, must ensure that it continues to participate in international trade, whether it is bilateral or multilateral. This means that they need to consider and actively work on new or renewed trade partnerships.

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<sup>3493</sup> Reports on G20 Trade and Investment Measures, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 June 2017. Access Date: 29 October 2017. <http://www.oecd.org/daf/inv/investment-policy/17th-Report-on-G20-Trade-and-Investment-Measures.pdf>.

<sup>3494</sup> Reports on G20 Trade and Investment Measures, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 June 2017. Access Date: 29 October 2017. <http://www.oecd.org/daf/inv/investment-policy/17th-Report-on-G20-Trade-and-Investment-Measures.pdf>.

<sup>3495</sup> Reports on G20 Trade and Investment Measures, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 June 2017. Access Date: 29 October 2017. <http://www.oecd.org/daf/inv/investment-policy/17th-Report-on-G20-Trade-and-Investment-Measures.pdf>.

<sup>3496</sup> Reports on G20 Trade and Investment Measures, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 June 2017. Access Date: 29 October 2017. <http://www.oecd.org/daf/inv/investment-policy/17th-Report-on-G20-Trade-and-Investment-Measures.pdf>.

<sup>3497</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Shaping an Interconnected World, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 29 October 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>3498</sup> Understanding the WTO, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2014. Access Date: 1 November 2017 [https://www.wto.org/english/res\\_e/doload\\_e/inbr\\_e.pdf](https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/doload_e/inbr_e.pdf).

<sup>3499</sup> Understanding the WTO, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2014. Access Date: 1 November 2017 [https://www.wto.org/english/res\\_e/doload\\_e/inbr\\_e.pdf](https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/doload_e/inbr_e.pdf).

“The Principle of Non-Discrimination” aims to guarantee equal and fair prospects regarding trade.<sup>3500</sup> This means that countries in similar situations should receive similar treatment. Thus, countries may not nominally differentiate between trading partners. The WTO rules state that, with exceptions, granting one country a special favour means that the favour ought to apply to all countries.<sup>3501</sup> Thus, a G20 member may not exclude against any trading partner, regardless of the size of its economy. While there are exceptions to this, the WTO must approve those.

### **Part Two: Fighting Protectionism**

“Protectionism” refers to government policies that restrict international trade.<sup>3502</sup> As electorates within G20 members seem to have voiced their grievances with global trade, this commitment is a steadfast reassurance that the G20 stands for free trade and condones actions that restrict it. However, the G20 acknowledge exceptions, in which “trade defence instruments” are legitimate.<sup>3503</sup> At the 2013 Bali Ministerial Conference, the WTO allows for three trade defence instruments: duties for anti-dumping, countervailing or safeguarding.<sup>3504</sup> Still, G20 members need to actively oppose protectionism, for instance through lowering tariffs, rejecting quotas and other political obstacles to free trade.

“Unfair Trade Practices” refers to various fraudulent and unethical methods for exchange.<sup>3505</sup> The G20 hereby commit themselves to continue to foster multilateral trading systems and to oblige by the rules set out through the WTO. Therefore, G20 members must actively promote fair competition. G20 Members should “implement and enforce legislation that is respecting human rights and labour protection standards.”<sup>3506</sup>

To achieve full compliance, a G20 member must have taken actions to ensure that their markets remained open, while opposing protectionism. For partial compliance, a G20 member must either have taken actions to ensure that their markets remained open but did not oppose protectionism or the G20 member must have opposed protectionism but not kept their markets open. For no compliance, the G20 member must have taken actions to close its markets and did not oppose protectionism.

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<sup>3500</sup> Principles of the trading system, World Trade Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 1 November 2017  
[https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/tif\\_e/fact2\\_e.html](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact2_e.html).

<sup>3501</sup> Principles of the trading system, World Trade Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 1 November 2017  
[https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/tif\\_e/fact2\\_e.html](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact2_e.html).

<sup>3502</sup> The Hidden Pressures, The Economist 12 October 2013. Access Date: 2 November 2017.  
<http://www.economist.com/news/special-report/21587381-protectionism-can-take-many-forms-not-all-them-obvious-hidden-persuaders>.

<sup>3503</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Shaping an Interconnected World, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 29 October 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>3504</sup> Briefing note: Anti-dumping, subsidies and safeguards, World Trade Organization (Bali) November 2013. Access Date: 2 November 2017. [https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/minist\\_e/mc9\\_e/brief\\_adp\\_e.html](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/minist_e/mc9_e/brief_adp_e.html).

<sup>3505</sup> Unfair Commercial Practices Directive, European Parliament (Brussels) 11 May 2005. Access Date: 2 November 2017. <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2005:149:0022:0039:EN:PDF>.

<sup>3506</sup> Open, Dynamic and Inclusive Labor Markets, B20 Task Force (Hamburg) 2017. Access Date: 2 November 2017.  
[https://www.b20germany.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/documents/B20/b20-policy-paper-employment-education.pdf](https://www.b20germany.org/fileadmin/user_upload/documents/B20/b20-policy-paper-employment-education.pdf).

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G20 member did not keep its markets open AND implemented protectionist measures.
0	The G20 member did not take actions to keep its market open but did not implement new protectionist measures OR the G20 member took actions to keep its market open but implemented protectionist measures.
+1	The G20 member kept its market open and opposed protectionism.

*Compliance Director: Anton Rizzor  
Lead Analyst: Tatiana Ferrara*

**Argentina: +1**

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 22 July 2017, the Argentine and Colombian governments announced that Mercosur made a trade agreement with Colombia to permit “limited quantities of tariff-free trade in products including automobiles, textiles and agrochemicals.”<sup>3507</sup>

On 10 August 2017, the Argentine government disclosed that import taxes on rigs and oil drilling equipment will be cut so that “importers will pay seven per cent import duties on the used equipment, with some equipment allowed to come in at zero per cent and others at 14 per cent.”<sup>3508</sup>

On 8 November 2017, officials from Argentina met with the United States Commerce Department in Washington to discuss the US’ claims that a 70 per cent duty would be implemented on biodiesel imports from Argentina in the US. President Mauricio Macri announced that Argentina would be willing to enforce a 15 per cent export tax on the product.<sup>3509</sup>

On 13 November 2017, Argentina continued negotiations between the European Union and Mercosur to create a free trade accord. Mercosur and the EU are working toward quickly completing talks and announcing the deal at the World Trade Organization (WTO) meeting in Buenos Aires in December 2018.<sup>3510</sup>

On 16 November 2017, Secretary of Commerce Miguel Braun expressed interest in expanding Argentina’s international trade to encourage growth during the Federal Council of Foreign Trade.<sup>3511</sup>

<sup>3507</sup> Mercosur and Colombia agree to a limited list of tariff-free products, MercoPress (Montevideo) 24 July 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <http://en.mercopress.com/2017/07/24/mercosur-and-colombia-agree-to-a-limited-list-of-tariff-free-products>.

<sup>3508</sup> Argentina eases used rig imports to spur drilling, boost output, S&P Global Platts (Buenos Aires) 10 August 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. <https://www.platts.com/latest-news/oil/buenosaires/argentina-eases-used-rig-imports-to-spur-drilling-21604341>.

<sup>3509</sup> Argentina at Mercy of Debt Markets to Fund Reforms, Macri Says, Bloomberg Politics (New York) 8 November 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-11-08/argentina-at-mercy-of-debt-markets-to-fund-reforms-macri-says>.

<sup>3510</sup> EU and Mercosur “very close” to reaching an accord, says top European official, MercoPress (Montevideo) 13 November 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://en.mercopress.com/2017/11/13/eu-and-mercosur-very-close-to-reaching-an-accord-says-top-european-official>.

<sup>3511</sup> Argentina es uno de los países menos integrados al comercio, Department of Foreign Trade (Buenos Aires) 16 November 2017. Access Date: 24 December 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-es-uno-de-los-paises-menos-integrados-al-comercio>.

On 24 November 2017, the Argentine government outlined a plan to implement the Single Window for Foreign Trade system to digitalize trade processes in Argentina. The system will aim to increase trade efficiency and expand international trading operations.<sup>3512</sup>

On 13 December 2017, Argentina signed a joint statement at the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference supporting “open, transparent, non-discriminatory and predictable regulatory environments” in electronic commerce.<sup>3513</sup>

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Meghan Henderson*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 26 July 2017, Steve Ciobo, Minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment, reaffirmed Australia’s commitment to negotiate and sign the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA-CEPA) by the end of 2017.<sup>3514</sup> Ciobo asserts that this new partnership will stimulate economic growth and prosperity for Australia by exporting additional products to Indonesia and increasing domestic employment opportunity.<sup>3515</sup>

Between 1 August 2017 and 5 August 2017, Australia commenced the second round of negotiations with Hong Kong to sign a Free Trade Agreement between the two countries.<sup>3516</sup>

On 20 September 2017, Australia and Indonesia reduced tariffs on the importation of raw sugar from Australia and herbicides and pesticides from Indonesia.<sup>3517</sup>

On 20 September 2017, the Indonesian and Australian trade ministers announced that they set a November 2018 deadline to complete a bilateral trade deal.<sup>3518</sup>

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<sup>3512</sup> Avances de Argentina en materia de Ventanilla Única de Comercio Exterior, Department of Foreign Trade (Buenos Aires) 24 November 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/avances-de-argentina-en-materia-de-ventanilla-unica-de-comercio-exterior>.

<sup>3513</sup> New initiatives on electronic commerce, investment facilitation and MSMEs. World Trade Organization (Geneva) 13 December 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news17\\_e/minis\\_13dec17\\_e.html](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news17_e/minis_13dec17_e.html).

<sup>3514</sup> Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership (IA-CEPA), Minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment (Canberra) 26 July 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [http://trademinister.gov.au/transcripts/Pages/2017/sc\\_tr\\_170726.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](http://trademinister.gov.au/transcripts/Pages/2017/sc_tr_170726.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>3515</sup> Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership (IA-CEPA), Minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment (Canberra) 26 July 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [http://trademinister.gov.au/transcripts/Pages/2017/sc\\_tr\\_170726.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](http://trademinister.gov.au/transcripts/Pages/2017/sc_tr_170726.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>3516</sup> Australia-Hong Kong Free Trade Agreement (A-HKFTA)- overview of second negotiating round, Hong Kong, 1-5 August, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 6 August 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. <http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/a-hkfta/Pages/news.aspx>.

<sup>3517</sup> Indonesia and Australia reduce tariffs on key commodities, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Canberra) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc\\_mr\\_170920b.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_170920b.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).



On 22 September 2017, Australia, alongside other Asia-Europe Meeting members, adopted a joint statement that supports a multilateral trade system.<sup>3519</sup> This stemmed from discussions on promoting trade and responding to protectionism.<sup>3520</sup>

On 19 October 2017, the Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) was updated to provide new opportunities for Australian businesses.<sup>3521</sup> The amendments improved business between the two nations resulting in a stronger trade and economic relationship.<sup>3522</sup>

On 10 November 2017, Australia finalized a trade agreement with Peru.<sup>3523</sup> The Peru-Australia Free Trade Agreement (PAFTA) is a bilateral arrangement designed to support Australian exporters interested in establishing a market for their products in Peru, one of the world's fastest growing economies.<sup>3524</sup>

On 11 November 2017, Australia alongside other Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) members, adopted the Da Nang Declaration, reaffirming support for a rules-based, free, open, fair, transparent, and inclusive multilateral trading system.<sup>3525</sup> The declaration emphasizes APEC's commitment to free and open trade and investment by 2020.<sup>3526</sup>

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<sup>3518</sup> Trade Ministers set November deadline for Indonesia-Australia trade-deal, ABC News Australia (Jakarta) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017 <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-09-20/steve-ciobo-announces-november-deadline-for-indonesia-trade-deal/8965262>.

<sup>3519</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3520</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3521</sup> Singapore Australia Free Trade Agreement, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Canberra) 19 October 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc\\_mr\\_171019.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_171019.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>3522</sup> Singapore Australia Free Trade Agreement, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Canberra) 19 October 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc\\_mr\\_171019.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_171019.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>3523</sup> Peru-Australia FTA to deliver jobs and growth, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Canberra) 10 November 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc\\_mr\\_171110.aspx](http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_171110.aspx).

<sup>3524</sup> Peru-Australia FTA to deliver jobs and growth, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Canberra) 10 November 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc\\_mr\\_171110.aspx](http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_171110.aspx).

<sup>3525</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018. [https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

<sup>3526</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018. [https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

On 20 November 2017, Australian exports reached a record high in 2016-2017 with a total of AUD373 billion.<sup>3527</sup>

On 1 December 2017, the SAFTA amendment entered into force.<sup>3528</sup> The amendment will create new opportunities for Australian businesses and continue to grow trade and investment between the two countries.<sup>3529</sup>

On 12 February 2018, Australia and Peru signed the Peru-Australia Free Trade Agreement.<sup>3530</sup> This will help create new Australian jobs, drive economic growth and eliminate tariff on 99 per cent of Australian goods within five years of the Agreement's entry into force.<sup>3531</sup>

On 23 February 2018, the United States and Australia agreed to intensify their support of digital trade and ensure an open, free and secure Internet and advocate for free and accessible global digital trade.<sup>3532</sup>

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Abigail Lessard*

#### **Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 13 November 2017, Ambassador and Deputy Foreign Minister Marcos Galvão and German State Secretary Machnig held a bilateral meeting during which they called for a EU-Mercosur free trade agreement.<sup>3533</sup>

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<sup>3527</sup> Another strong trade outcome for Australia, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Canberra) 30 November 2017. Access Date: 10 January 2018.

[http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc\\_mr\\_171130a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_171130a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>3528</sup> Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Canberra) 1 December 2017. Access Date: 10 January 2018.

[http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc\\_mr\\_171201a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_171201a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>3529</sup> Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Canberra) 1 December 2017. Access Date: 10 January 2018.

[http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc\\_mr\\_171201a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_171201a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>3530</sup> Australia and Peru sign free trade agreement, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Canberra) 12 February 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2018.

[http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/sc\\_mr\\_180212.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/sc_mr_180212.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>3531</sup> Australia and Peru sign free trade agreement, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Canberra) 12 February 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2018.

[http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/sc\\_mr\\_180212.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/sc_mr_180212.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>3532</sup> United States and Australia Intensify Cooperation on Digital Trade, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 23 February 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2018. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2018/february/united-states-and-australia>.

On 8 December 2017, Brazil began exporting eggs to South Africa.<sup>3534</sup> Secretary of International Relations Odilson Luiz Ribeiro e Silva said that this particular export signals “the quality and sanity of the Brazilian product and contributes to the strengthening of the agricultural sector, expanding and diversifying exports.”<sup>3535</sup>

On 22 December 2017, Brazil and Columbia’s automotive trade agreement went into effect.<sup>3536</sup> In addition to the automotive industry, the agreement “provides better access to the Colombian market for textiles and steel products.”<sup>3537</sup>

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jessica Afonso*

### **Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Between 16 August 2017 and 20 August 2017, Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland held talks with Robert Lighthizer, US Trade Representative, and Mexican Secretary of the Economy Ildefonso Guajardo to renegotiate and modernize the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).<sup>3538</sup>

On 18 September 2017, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and United Kingdom Prime Minister Theresa May discussed potential new bilateral arrangements for “seamless transition” after Brexit and to spread benefits of freer trade.<sup>3539</sup>

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<sup>3533</sup> Press: State Secretary Machnig opens German-Brazilian Business Days, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin). 14 November 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://www.bmw.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20171114-staatssekretaer-machnig-eroeffnet-deutsch-brasilianische-wirtschaftstage.html>.

<sup>3534</sup> Brazil starts exporting eggs to South Africa, Government of Brazil (Panácio do Planalto) 8 December 2017. Access Date: 1 January 2018. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/economia-e-emprego/2017/12/brasil-comeca-a-exportar-ovos-para-a-africa-do-sul>.

<sup>3535</sup> Brazil starts exporting eggs to South Africa, Government of Brazil (Panácio do Planalto) 8 December 2017. Access Date: 1 January 2018. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/economia-e-emprego/2017/12/brasil-comeca-a-exportar-ovos-para-a-africa-do-sul>.

<sup>3536</sup> Automotive agreement between Brazil and Colombia goes into effect, Government of Brazil (Panácio do Planalto) 26 December 2017. Access Date: 14 January 2018. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/economia-e-emprego/2017/12/acordo-automotivo-entre-brasil-e-colombia-entra-em-vigor>.

<sup>3537</sup> Automotive agreement between Brazil and Colombia goes into effect, Government of Brazil (Panácio do Planalto) 26 December 2017. Access Date: 14 January 2018. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/economia-e-emprego/2017/12/acordo-automotivo-entre-brasil-e-colombia-entra-em-vigor>.

<sup>3538</sup> Trilateral Statement on the Conclusion of NAFTA Round One, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 20 August 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2017/august/trilateral-statement-conclusion>.

<sup>3539</sup> Prime Minister of Canada announces closer collaboration with the United Kingdom, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 18 September 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017 <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2017/09/18/prime-minister-canada-announces-closer-collaboration-united-kingdom>.

On 20 September 2017, the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between the European Union and Canada entered into force.<sup>3540</sup> CETA is a progressive free trade agreement which covers virtually all sectors and aspects of Canada-EU trade in order to eliminate or reduce barriers.<sup>3541</sup> With CETA, 98 per cent of EU tariff lines are now duty-free for Canadian goods.<sup>3542</sup> Once CETA is fully implemented, the EU will have eliminated tariffs on 99 percent of its tariff lines.<sup>3543</sup>

On 10 November 2017, Canada reaffirmed its commitment to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) as the continuation of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement along with 11 other countries.<sup>3544</sup> Canada reaffirmed its commitment to open markets, combating protectionism and advancing regional economic integration.<sup>3545</sup>

On 11 November 2017, Canada alongside other Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) members, adopted the Da Nang Declaration, reaffirming support for a rules-based, free, open, fair, transparent, and inclusive multilateral trading system.<sup>3546</sup> The declaration emphasizes APEC's commitment to free and open trade and investment by 2020.<sup>3547</sup>

On 28 November 2017, Canada formally requested to the World Trade Organization (WTO) consultations against recently imposed anti-dumping and countervailing duty determinations on softwood lumber products from Canada by the United States.<sup>3548</sup>

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<sup>3540</sup> EU-Canada trade agreement enters into force, European Commission (Brussels) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 2 November 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1723&title=EU-Canada-trade-agreement-enters-into-force>.

<sup>3541</sup> EU-Canada trade agreement enters into force, European Commission (Brussels) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 2 November 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1723&title=EU-Canada-trade-agreement-enters-into-force>.

<sup>3542</sup> EU-Canada trade agreement enters into force, European Commission (Brussels) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 2 November 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1723&title=EU-Canada-trade-agreement-enters-into-force>.

<sup>3543</sup> EU-Canada trade agreement enters into force, European Commission (Brussels) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 2 November 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1723&title=EU-Canada-trade-agreement-enters-into-force>.

<sup>3544</sup> Trans-Pacific Partnership Ministerial Statement, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 11 November 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/tpp-tp/statement-declaration.aspx?lang=eng>.

<sup>3545</sup> Trans-Pacific Partnership Ministerial Statement, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 11 November 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/tpp-tp/statement-declaration.aspx?lang=eng>.

<sup>3546</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018. [https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

<sup>3547</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018. [https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

<sup>3548</sup> Canada requests WTO consultations on US duties on Canadian Softwood lumber, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa), 28 November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. [https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2017/11/canada\\_requests\\_wtoconsultationsonusdutiesagainstcanadiansoftwoo.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2017/11/canada_requests_wtoconsultationsonusdutiesagainstcanadiansoftwoo.html).

On 11 December 2017, at the WTO 11th Ministerial Conference in Buenos Aires, Minister of International Trade François-Philippe Champagne reaffirmed Canada's commitment to the "centrality" of the rules based multilateral trading system and the value of the WTO's framework of rules to International Trade.<sup>3549</sup> Canada also reaffirmed its commitment to reduce and eliminate "unjustified non-tariff measures" in the agricultural sector and reaffirmed its commitment towards science-based decision making.<sup>3550</sup>

On 19 January 2018, Canada filed a formal complaint under NAFTA chapter 19 dispute mechanisms, in response to US Department of Commerce final subsidy and dumping determinations of duty rates on Bombardier C Series aircraft and the U.S International Trade Commission's determination of material injury of softwood lumber products.<sup>3551</sup>

On 23 January 2018, Minister Champagne, announced the conclusion of trade discussions and consensus on the text of the CPTPP as a new free trade agreement between Canada and 10 other member countries, establishing a mutually advantageous trade and investment framework with member countries.<sup>3552</sup>

On 1 March 2018, Minister Freeland declared any potential trade restrictions on Canadian steel and aluminum sectors as "unacceptable" regarding potential United States trade restrictions on the steel and aluminum sector.<sup>3553</sup>

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Joe Wu*

### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 5 September 2017, China hosted the Dialogue of Emerging Economies and Developing Countries with Egypt, Guinea, Thailand, Tajikistan, and Mexico. During the Dialogue, all members advocated for free trade.<sup>3554</sup>

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<sup>3549</sup> More than 40 ministers issue joint statement affirming support for the WTO, World Trade Organization (Geneva), 11 December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018.

[https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news17\\_e/mc11\\_11dec17\\_e.html](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news17_e/mc11_11dec17_e.html).

<sup>3550</sup> Canada supports agricultural trade at WTO, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. [https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2017/12/canada\\_supports\\_agriculturaltradeatwto.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2017/12/canada_supports_agriculturaltradeatwto.html).

<sup>3551</sup> Trade litigation update from the Government of Canada, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 January 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/01/trade\\_litigationupdatefromthegovernmentofcanada.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/01/trade_litigationupdatefromthegovernmentofcanada.html).

<sup>3552</sup> Statement by Minister of International Trade on successful conclusion of Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2018: Access Date: 4 March 2018. [https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/01/statement\\_by\\_ministerofinternationaltradeonsuccessfulconclusiono.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/01/statement_by_ministerofinternationaltradeonsuccessfulconclusiono.html).

<sup>3553</sup> Remarks by President Trump in Listening Session with Representatives from the Steel and Aluminum Industry, The White House (Washington, DC) 1 March 2018. Access Date: 6 March 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-listening-session-representatives-steel-aluminum-industry/>.

On 5 September 2017, Yi Huiman, Executive Director of the Bank of Industry and Commerce of China met with Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto where both parties “reaffirmed their commitment to building an efficient, including financial system open to competition that provides more products and services in both Mexico and China.”<sup>3555</sup>

On 22 September 2017, China alongside other Asia-Europe Meeting members, adopted a joint statement that supports a multilateral trade system.<sup>3556</sup> This stemmed from discussions on promoting trade and responding to protectionism.<sup>3557</sup>

On 1 October 2017, China and Russia as part of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) signed a new agreement on “Trade and Economic Cooperation” in Hangzhou, China.<sup>3558</sup> The agreement will remove non-tariff trade barriers, improve trade facilitation and “boost in-depth development of trade and partnerships” between China, Russia and all EAEU member countries.<sup>3559</sup>

On 11 November 2017, China alongside other Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) members, adopted the Da Nang Declaration, reaffirming support for a rules-based, free, open, fair, transparent, and inclusive multilateral trading system.<sup>3560</sup> The declaration emphasizes APEC’s commitment to free and open trade and investment by 2020.<sup>3561</sup>

On 27 November 2017, during the APEC Summit, President Xi Jinping supported globalization as he sees it as an irreversible historical trend, however, he suggested that the philosophy behind free trade needed to be repurposed to be “more open, more balanced, more equitable and more beneficial

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<sup>3554</sup> Dialogue of Emerging Economies and Developing Countries, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 5 September 2017. Access Date: 1 January 2018. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/en/prensa/dialogue-of-emerging-economies-and-developing-countries-125239?idiom=en>.

<sup>3555</sup> President Enrique Peña Nieto meets with Executive Director of the Bank of Industry and Commerce of China. Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 5 September 2017. Access Date: 1 January 2018. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/en/prensa/president-enrique-pena-nieto-meets-with-executive-director-of-the-bank-of-industry-and-commerce-of-china?idiom=en>.

<sup>3556</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers’ Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3557</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers’ Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3558</sup> China and the EAEU Declared the Conclusion of negotiations on the Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation, Eurasian Economic Commission (Moscow) 2 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://eec.eaeunion.org/en/nae/news/Pages/2-10-2017-5.aspx>.

<sup>3559</sup> China Signs Economic and Trade Partnership Deal with Russia-Led EAEU, China Global Television Network (Beijing) 1 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. [https://news.cgtn.com/news/3467444f78597a6333566d54/share\\_p.html](https://news.cgtn.com/news/3467444f78597a6333566d54/share_p.html).

<sup>3560</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018. [https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

<sup>3561</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018. [https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

to all.”<sup>3562</sup> He also showed strong support to multilateral trade, stating that its members can benefit more from international trade and investment.<sup>3563</sup>

On 7 December 2017, International Trade Representative and Vice Minister of Commerce Fu Ziyang and Maldivian Minister of Economic Development Mohamed Saeed signed the Free Trade Agreement between the Governments of China and Maldives.<sup>3564</sup>

On 14 December 2017 President Xi and, Korean President Moon Jae-In agreed to increase strategic dialogues between presidents and senior cabinet members to develop bilateral cooperation, including trade.<sup>3565</sup>

On 15 December 2017, Minister of Commerce Zhong Shan and Korea’s Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy agreed to hold the first meeting for Korea-China free trade negotiations by February 2018.<sup>3566</sup>

On 25 December 2017, China announced that it set a goal of building itself into a global powerhouse in international trade by 2035 through further reform and fine-tuning of trade structure.<sup>3567</sup> To reach its long-term target, the Ministry of Commerce decided to enhance China’s role as a major global trading partner before 2020 and deploy more resources to maintain a steady growth in international trade, make efficient use of foreign investment and ensure Chinese companies to invest overseas in an orderly way in 2018.<sup>3568</sup>

On 9 January 2018, China welcomed French President Emanuel Macron for a three-day diplomatic during which he articulated the need to continue to promote free trade and combat protectionism.<sup>3569</sup>

On 11 January 2018, Premier of the State Council Li Keqiang and Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen in Phnom Penh jointly witnessed the signing of 19 bilateral cooperation

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<sup>3562</sup> APEC Summit: Trump and Xi offer competing visions for trade, BBC News (London) 10 November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-41937426>.

<sup>3563</sup> APEC Summit: Trump and Xi offer competing visions for trade, BBC News (London) 10 November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-41937426>.

<sup>3564</sup> China and Maldives Sign the Free Trade Agreement, Ministry of Commerce (Beijing) 8 December 2017. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/newsrelease/significantnews/201712/20171202683630.shtml>.

<sup>3565</sup> Korea, China vow to develop partnership on NK, economic issues, Office of the President (Seoul) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 19 February 2018. [https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=1&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=20094&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=36](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=1&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=20094&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=36).

<sup>3566</sup> Minister Paik meets with China’s Commerce Minister, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 19 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=657&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=11&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=657&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=11&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3567</sup> China aims to be global trade power, China Daily USA Edition (New York) 16 November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201712/26/WS5a4175a4a31008cf16da35b1.html>.

<sup>3568</sup> China aims to be global trade power, China Daily USA Edition (New York) 16 November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201712/26/WS5a4175a4a31008cf16da35b1.html>.

<sup>3569</sup> In China, Macron Offers a Horse, and a Vision to Counter Trump, New York Times (New York) 8 January 2018. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/09/world/asia/china-france-xi-macron.html>.

documents in areas such as economic and trade, technology, health care, forestry, agriculture and humanity.<sup>3570</sup>

China has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Crystal Wong*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open, noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, while continuing to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 22 September 2017, France, alongside other Asia-Europe Meeting members, adopted a joint statement that supports a multilateral trade system.<sup>3571</sup> This stemmed from discussions on promoting trade and responding to protectionism.<sup>3572</sup>

On 21 November 2017, Minister of the Economy Bruno Le Maire announced his intention to transform France into one of the largest European financial centers.<sup>3573</sup> He further announced the government's plan to bring into force new laws aimed at growing France's small and medium enterprises into more powerful, larger companies that can export to markets where there is growth.<sup>3574</sup>

On 9 January 2017, President Emanuel Macron commenced a three-day diplomatic visit to China during which he articulated the need to continue to promote free trade and combat protectionism.<sup>3575</sup> Macron also called for more oversight of Chinese investments in France and the European Union more broadly, especially in sensitive industries.<sup>3576</sup>

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<sup>3570</sup> China and Cambodia sign Economic and Trade Cooperation Documents on Economic and Technical Cooperation between the Two Governments, Ministry of Commerce (Beijing) 12 January 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018.

<http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/newsrelease/significantnews/201801/20180102698985.shtml>.

<sup>3571</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3572</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3573</sup> "Bruno La Maire, : Paris va devenir l'une des plus grandes places financières européennes," BFMTV (Paris) 21 November 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://bfmbusiness.bfmtv.com/france/video-bruno-le-maire-paris-va-devenir-l-une-des-plus-grandes-places-financieres-europeennes-1308831.html>.

<sup>3574</sup> "Bruno Le Maire : Paris va devenir l'une des plus grandes places financières européennes," BFMTV (Paris) 21 November 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://bfmbusiness.bfmtv.com/france/video-bruno-le-maire-paris-va-devenir-l-une-des-plus-grandes-places-financieres-europeennes-1308831.html>.

<sup>3575</sup> In China, Macron Offers a Horse, and a Vision to Counter Trump, New York Times (New York) 8 January 2018. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/09/world/asia/china-france-xi-macron.html>.

<sup>3576</sup> J In China, Macron Offers a Horse, and a Vision to Counter Trump, New York Times (New York) 8 January 2018. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/09/world/asia/china-france-xi-macron.html>.



On 23 February 2018, Prime Minister Edouard Philippe announced that France would fund information desks for exporter needing expertise on foreign markets along with English certifications for French students over the next three years in an effort to stimulate French exports and improve France's trade deficit.<sup>3577</sup>

On 5 February 2018, Foreign Minister Jean-Baptiste Lemoine, said that his government would refuse to negotiate any trade agreement with countries who had not ratified the Paris Climate Agreement.<sup>3578</sup> Specifically, he acknowledged that the "US knows what to expect," and that any "trade agreement with the US should implement the Paris Agreement."<sup>3579</sup> The United States withdrew from the agreement on 1 June 2017.<sup>3580</sup>

France complied with its commitment to keep markets open, noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination. However, France did not comply with its commitment to continuing to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Dillon Aube*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 20 July 2017, Germany announced that it would extend its cooperation with Ukraine on manager training in order to deepen business ties with Ukraine as well support "the necessary reforms in Ukraine."<sup>3581</sup>

On 27 July 2017, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Brigitte Zypries met with the Iranian Minister for Roads and Urban Development, Dr. Abbas Ahmad Akhoundi in order to

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<sup>3577</sup> Pour doper le commerce extérieur, le gouvernement mise sur l'anglais et le guichet unique, l'Usine Nouvelle, Formation (Lille) 23 February 2018. Access Date: 26 February 2018. <https://www.usinenouvelle.com/article/la-france-mise-sur-l-anglais-et-le-guichet-unique-pour-l-export.N658024>.

<sup>3578</sup> EU Tells Trump: No Paris Climate Deal, No Free Trade, Forbes (New York) 8 February 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davekeating/2018/02/08/eu-tells-trump-no-paris-climate-deal-no-free-trade/#16a26f437c7e>.

<sup>3579</sup> EU Tells Trump: No Paris Climate Deal, No Free Trade, Forbes (New York) 8 February 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davekeating/2018/02/08/eu-tells-trump-no-paris-climate-deal-no-free-trade/#16a26f437c7e>.

<sup>3580</sup> EU Tells Trump: No Paris Climate Deal, No Free Trade, Forbes (New York) 8 February 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davekeating/2018/02/08/eu-tells-trump-no-paris-climate-deal-no-free-trade/#16a26f437c7e>.

<sup>3581</sup> Press: Cooperation with Ukraine on manager training extended, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin). 20 August 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170720-zusammenarbeit-mit-ukraine-verlaengert.html>.

further economic cooperation and trade between the two countries, especially as it relates to the modernisation of Iran's industry and infrastructure.<sup>3582</sup>

From 17 to 23 September 2017, representatives of the United States Department of State, Department of Treasury and the US trade commissioner welcomed State Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy Matthias Machnig, to discuss the importance of the German-American trade and investment relation as well as to question the use of American sanctions.<sup>3583</sup>

On 22 September 2017, Germany, alongside other Asia-Europe Meeting members, adopted a joint statement that supports a multilateral trade system.<sup>3584</sup> This stemmed from discussions on promoting trade and responding to protectionism.<sup>3585</sup>

On 17 October 2017, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy Uwe Beckmeyer gave the opening speech for the 2017 Latin America Day, which was hosted in Germany, in which he called for greater economic cooperation between Germany and Latin America in light of the rise of American protectionism.<sup>3586</sup>

On 10 November 2017, State Secretary Machnig declared that Europe should work together so that the World Trade Organization can “promote open markets” and “eliminate barriers to trade.”<sup>3587</sup>

On 13 November 2017, State Secretary Machnig opened the 35th German-Brazilian Business Days to promote trade and cooperation between Brazil and Germany.<sup>3588</sup>

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<sup>3582</sup> Press: Zypries meets with the Iranian Minister for Roads, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 27 August 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017.

<http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170727-zypries-trifft-iranischen-verkehrsminister.html>.

<sup>3583</sup> Press: State Secretary Machnig travelling to the US from 17 to 23 September to discuss economic policy issues, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin). 15 September 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017.

<http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170915-machnig-travels-us-for-economic-discussion.html>.

<sup>3584</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3585</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3586</sup> Press: State Secretary Beckmeyer: “Closer cooperation with Latin America generates jobs and prosperity”, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 17 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017.

<http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20171017-beckmeyer-closer-cooperation-with-latin-america-generates-jobs-and-prosperity.html>.

<sup>3587</sup> Press: State Secretary Machnig: “Europe must strengthen the WTO”, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 10 November 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017.

<http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20171110-staatssekretaer-machnig-europa-muss-wto-staerken.html>

<sup>3588</sup> Press: State Secretary Machnig opens German-Brazilian Business Days, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017.

<http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20171114-staatssekretaer-machnig-eroeffnet-deutsch-brasilianische-wirtschaftstage.html>.

On 13 November 2017, State Secretary Machnig and Ambassador and Deputy Foreign Minister of Brazil Marcos Galvão held a bilateral meeting during which they called for a EU-Mercosur free trade agreement.<sup>3589</sup>

Germany has fully complied with its commitment with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Adrien Blanchard*

### **India: 0**

India has partially complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 21 August 2017, the Finance Ministry imposed an anti-dumping duty on tempered glass imports from China.<sup>3590</sup>

On 1 September 2017, the Indian government introduced tough quality criteria and mandated certification of compliance on toys produced in China by accredited agencies on China.<sup>3591</sup>

On 22 September 2017, India alongside other Asia-Europe Meeting members, adopted a joint statement that supports a multilateral trade system.<sup>3592</sup> This stemmed from discussions on promoting trade and responding to protectionism.<sup>3593</sup>

On 23 September 2017, Korean Trade Minister Kim Hyun-Chong and Indina Minister of Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu agreed to accelerate negotiations to improve the Korea-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, including the bilateral trade pact.<sup>3594</sup>

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<sup>3589</sup> Press: State Secretary Machnig opens German-Brazilian Business Days, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20171114-staatssekretaer-machnig-eroeffnet-deutsch-brasilianische-wirtschaftstage.html>.

<sup>3590</sup> Anti-dumping duty imposed on tempered glass from China, The Hindu Business Line (New Delhi) 21 August 2017. Access Date: 12 October 2017. <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/antidumping-duty-imposed-on-tempered-glass-from-china/article9824506.ece>

<sup>3591</sup> Tough quality norms hit imports of Chinese toys, The Economic Times (Mumbai) 16 October 2017. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/tough-quality-norms-hit-imports-of-chinese-toys/articleshow/61108322.cms>.

<sup>3592</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3593</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

On 26 October 2017, India held its 11th trade-policy forum with the United States in Washington for discussions on issues related to bilateral trade between the two countries, areas of mutual cooperation, market access in agriculture, non-agricultural goods and services and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). India reiterated its commitment to work towards building strong trade and investment ties to realize mutual gains from the partnership with the United States.<sup>3595</sup>

On 3 November 2017, the Indian government-imposed regulations on China over the import of toys, tempered glass, tyres, power, and telecom.<sup>3596</sup>

On 15 November 2017, senior officials from India and the European Union held discussions on a potential free trade agreement.<sup>3597</sup>

On 5 February 2018, the United Kingdom's Minister of State for Trade and Export Promotion, Baroness Rona Fairhead, visited India to launch the very first India-UK Createch Summit in the country's tech capital, Mumbai.<sup>3598</sup> This is the culmination of several trade missions aiming to intensify the exchange in the technology sector.<sup>3599</sup>

On 20 February 2018, the 12th session of the Saudi-India Joint Committee was held in Riyadh.<sup>3600</sup> Both countries agreed to make joint efforts in increase the volume of mutual investments, especially in the priority sectors and increase the bilateral trade volume.<sup>3601</sup>

On 3 March 2018, India entered into a bilateral trade agreement with Vietnam that will enhance their bilateral trade.<sup>3602</sup>

On 6 March 2018, India announced a new tariff with a 60 per cent import tax on chickpeas.<sup>3603</sup>

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<sup>3594</sup> Korea, India sign agreed minutes at 3<sup>rd</sup> CEPA Joint Committee meeting, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=630&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=630&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3595</sup> India and US hold 11th Trade Policy Forum meeting in Washington D.C. On October 26th, Business Standard (New Delhi) 29 October 2017. Access Date: 16 November 2017. [http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/india-and-us-hold-11th-trade-policy-forum-meeting-in-washington-117102800440\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/india-and-us-hold-11th-trade-policy-forum-meeting-in-washington-117102800440_1.html).

<sup>3596</sup> Has India kicked off a trade war with China? Here are five signs, The Economic Times (Mumbai) 3 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/how-india-has-started-a-covert-trade-war-with-china/articleshow/61479171.cms>.

<sup>3597</sup> India, EU hold discussions on proposed free trade agreement, The Economic Times (Mumbai) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. [https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-eu-hold-discussions-on-proposed-free-trade-agreement/articleshow/61662790.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-eu-hold-discussions-on-proposed-free-trade-agreement/articleshow/61662790.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst).

<sup>3598</sup> UK trade minister visits India to boost creative ties, Department for International Trade India (Mumbai) 5 February 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-trade-minister-visits-india-to-boost-creative-ties>.

<sup>3599</sup> UK trade minister visits India to boost creative ties, Department for International Trade India (Mumbai) 5 February 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-trade-minister-visits-india-to-boost-creative-ties>.

<sup>3600</sup> Riyadh Hosts The 12th Session Of The Saudi-India Joint Committee. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 6 February 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2018. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/06-02-18-01.aspx>.

<sup>3601</sup> Riyadh Hosts The 12th Session Of The Saudi-India Joint Committee. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 6 February 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2018. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/06-02-18-01.aspx>.

<sup>3602</sup> India, Vietnam to strengthen maritime and trade links, Gulf Times (Doha) 3 March 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2018. <http://www.gulf-times.com/story/583683/India-Vietnam-to-strengthen-maritime-and-trade-lin>.

India complied with its commitment to keep markets open, noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination. However, India did not comply with continuing to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, India receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Mohammad Faaris Hussain*

**Indonesia: +1**

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 21 July 2017, South Africa and Indonesia agreed to identify sectors to exploit existing investment opportunities in both countries. Currently, there is no investment between the two countries. The two countries agreed to work closely to facilitate the business-to-business contact and also support each other in diversifying exports and improving the structure of trade.<sup>3604</sup>

On 7 September 2017, Trade Minister Enggartiasto Lukita explained that the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement will be completed in 2018.<sup>3605</sup>

On 7 September 2017, Indonesia submitted a complaint to the World Trade Organization (WTO) over a protectionist tariff imposed by Australia on paper imports.<sup>3606</sup>

On 8 September 2017, Indonesia's trade minister along with the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) ministers agreed to accelerate negotiations for further liberalization under the Korean-ASEAN free trade agreement, which has grown bilateral trade by 5.7 per cent on average each year since it entered into force.<sup>3607</sup>

On 13 September 2017, the Economic Minister, along with other ASEAN Economic ministers agreed to increase trade cooperation with Russia, including several Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) countries.<sup>3608</sup>

On 20 September 2017, the Indonesian and Australian trade ministers announced that they set a November 2018 deadline to complete a bilateral trade deal.<sup>3609</sup>

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<sup>3603</sup> India has raised the stakes in its trade war for chickpeas with a new 60% tariff, Business Insider (Sydney) 6 March 2018. Access Date: 6 March 2018. <http://www.businessinsider.com/india-tariff-on-chickpeas-raised-to-60-2018-3>.

<sup>3604</sup> SA And Indonesia Agree to Identify Sectors to Exploit Investment Opportunities. The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 21 July 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4131>.

<sup>3605</sup> Government spurs the completion of the IA-CEPA Agreement, Ministry of Trade (Jakarta) 7 September 2017. Access Date: 14 November 2017. <http://www.kemendag.go.id/en/news/2017/09/07/-pemerintah-pacu-penyelesaian-perjanjian-ia-cep>.

<sup>3606</sup> Indonesia files complaint against Australia in World Trade Organization, The Sydney Morning Herald (Sydney) 7 September 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.smh.com.au/business/the-economy/indonesia-files-complaint-against-australia-in-world-trade-organisation-20170906-gybym1.html>.

<sup>3607</sup> Korea, ASEAN discuss further economic cooperation in Manila, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 15 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=585&bbs\\_cd\\_n=2&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=585&bbs_cd_n=2&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3608</sup> ASEAN Improves Trade Relations with Russia, Ministry of Trade (Jakarta) 13 September 2017. Access Date: 14 November 2017. <http://www.kemendag.go.id/en/news/2017/09/13/asean-tingkatkan-hubungan-dagang-sengan-rusia>.

On 20 September 2017, Australia and Indonesia reduced tariffs on the importation of raw sugar from Australia and herbicides and pesticides from Indonesia.<sup>3610</sup>

On 22 September 2017, Indonesia alongside other Asia-Europe Meeting members, adopted a joint statement that supports a multilateral trade system.<sup>3611</sup> This stemmed from discussions on promoting trade and responding to protectionism.<sup>3612</sup>

On 11 November 2017, Indonesia alongside other Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) members, adopted the Da Nang Declaration, reaffirming support for a rules-based, free, open, fair, transparent, and inclusive multilateral trading system.<sup>3613</sup> The declaration emphasizes APEC's commitment to free and open trade and investment by 2020.<sup>3614</sup>

On 20 December 2017, Indonesia announced that it will allow tariff-free imports and direct market access to some Palestinian goods in the beginning of the new year.<sup>3615</sup>

On 21 December 2017, Australia and Indonesia announced that they would fail to meet the deadline to complete a bilateral free trade deal.<sup>3616</sup>

On 21 December 2017, Chile and Indonesia signed the Indonesia-Chile Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement.<sup>3617</sup>

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<sup>3609</sup>Trade Ministers set November deadline for Indonesia-Australia trade-deal, ABC News Australia (Jakarta) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017 <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-09-20/steve-ciobo-announces-november-deadline-for-indonesia-trade-deal/8965262>.

<sup>3610</sup>Indonesia and Australia reduce tariffs on key commodities, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Canberra) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc\\_mr\\_170920b.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_170920b.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>3611</sup>Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3612</sup>Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3613</sup>APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018.

[https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

<sup>3614</sup>APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018.

[https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

<sup>3615</sup>Indonesia to allow tariff-free import of some Palestinian goods, Reuters (London) 20 December 2017. Access Date: 21 December 2017. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-palestinians-trade/indonesia-to-allow-tarrif-free-import-of-some-palestinian-goods-idUSKBN1EE12F>.

<sup>3616</sup>Australia and Indonesia fail to meet free-trade deal deadline, SMH (Sydney) 21 December 2017. Access Date: 21 December 2017. <http://www.smh.com.au/business/world-business/australia-and-indonesia-fail-to-meet-freetrade-deadline-20171221-h08qz0.html>.

<sup>3617</sup>Indonesia, Chile sign CEPA, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 21 December 2017. Access Date: 21 December 2017. <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/12/21/indonesia-chile-sign-cepa.html>.

On 4 January 2018, Indonesia announced its intention to initiate negotiations on trade agreements under both bilateral and regional schemes with five partners, Peru, Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa and Morocco, and on a comprehensive economic partnership agreement with the Gulf Cooperation Council.<sup>3618</sup> Additionally, it will also begin negotiating a free trade agreement with Canada, along with ASEAN members.<sup>3619</sup>

On 26 February 2018, the European Union completed a fourth round of negotiations with Indonesia towards the finalization of a free trade agreement. Topics of discussion included, “food and plant health, technical barrier to trade, investment and services.”<sup>3620</sup>

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mohammed Faaris Hussain*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 20 July 2017, the Italian government ruled that all packages of rice and pasta sold in Italy would require labels of origin to identify the location of production in an effort to protect Italian farmers. The Canadian government is analyzing Italy’s trade obligation under the Comprehensive and Economic Trade Agreement in respect to this policy.<sup>3621</sup>

On 4 September 2017, the Ministry of Agriculture said that tomato-based products may require labels of origin to promote Italian producers.<sup>3622</sup>

On 22 September 2017, Italy alongside other Asia-Europe Meeting members, adopted a joint statement that supports a multilateral trade system.<sup>3623</sup> This stemmed from discussions on promoting trade and responding to protectionism.<sup>3624</sup>

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<sup>3618</sup> Indonesia to start trade talks to boost exports, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 4 January 2018. Access Date: 5 February 2018. <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2018/01/04/ri-to-start-trade-talks-to-boost-exports.html>.

<sup>3619</sup> Indonesia to start trade talks to boost exports, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 4 January 2018. Access Date: 5 February 2018. <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2018/01/04/ri-to-start-trade-talks-to-boost-exports.html>.

<sup>3620</sup> EU completes fourth round of trade negotiations with Indonesia, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2018. Access Date: 26 February 2018. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1800>.

<sup>3621</sup> Italy demands origin labels for pasta and rice, EURACTIV (London) 21 July 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.euractiv.com/section/agriculture-food/news/italy-demands-origin-labels-for-pasta-and-rice/>.

<sup>3622</sup> Italy to extend country of origin labelling to tomato products, EURACTIV (London) 6 September 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/agriculture-food/news/italy-to-extend-country-of-origin-labeling-to-tomato-products/>.

<sup>3623</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers’ Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

On 11 December 2017, the Council of Ministers outlined five legislative decrees in a press release that enforce sanctions for trade embargo in accordance with European Union mandate.<sup>3625</sup>

On 9 January 2018, Consul General of Italy in Montréal Marco Riccardo Rusconi met with the Confederazione Italiana Agricoltori National President, Dino Scanavino, to discuss advancing trade relations between Italy and Quebec and promoting Italian agri-food companies. The meeting follows the signing of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between the EU and Canada.<sup>3626</sup>

Italy complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination. However, Italy did not comply with its commitment to continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Meghan Henderson*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 22 September 2017, Japan alongside other Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) members, adopted a joint statement that supports a multilateral trade system.<sup>3627</sup> This stemmed from discussions on promoting trade and responding to protectionism.<sup>3628</sup>

On 29 September 2017, the seventh round of the negotiation for a Japan-Turkey Economic Partnership Agreement was held in Tokyo.<sup>3629</sup>

On 2 October 2017, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hiroshige Seko met with Arkady Vladimirovich Dvorkovich, Deputy Prime Minister of Russia.<sup>3630</sup> Japan and Russia confirmed that

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<sup>3624</sup> Ministry hosts 7th ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3625</sup> Press Release of the Council of Ministers n. 61, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 11 December 2017. Access Date: 14 January 2018. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/comunicato-stampa-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-61/8641>.

<sup>3626</sup> Promozione delle aziende agroalimentari italiane in Québec, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 9 January 2018. Access Date: 14 January 2018. [http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/promozione-delle-aziende-agroalimentari.html](http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/promozione-delle-aziende-agroalimentari.html).

<sup>3627</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3628</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3629</sup> Press Release: Summary of the Seventh Round of the Negotiation for a Japan-Turkey Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 29 September 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. [http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_001747.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_001747.html).



the cooperation between governments and private organizations is expanding between both countries, including expanding exchanges and cooperation among small and medium-sized companies, developing industries and export bases in the Far East, cooperating on advanced technologies and expanding people-to-people exchanges.<sup>3631</sup>

On 2 November 2017, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry announced that it compiled the elements concerning tariff rates of industrial goods under the agreement in principle on the Japan-European Union Economic Partnership Agreement.<sup>3632</sup>

On 8 November 2017, Minister Seko, attended the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial Meeting. Minister Seko made the proposal and statement concerning the theme “creating new dynamism for regional economic integration” reflected in the Joint Ministerial Statement and the Leaders’ Declaration.<sup>3633</sup> He stressed that ministers should clearly demonstrate their commitment to fighting protectionism and promoting free trade, and that ministers need to establish high-level free and fair trade rules and broaden the level playing field.<sup>3634</sup> He pointed out the importance of enhancing the multilateral trading system based on the rules placing the World Trade Organization (WTO) at the core and conducting quality rule-making in the Asia-Pacific region.<sup>3635</sup>

On 11 November 2017, Japan alongside other APEC members, adopted the Da Nang Declaration, reaffirming support for a rules-based, free, open, fair, transparent, and inclusive multilateral trading system.<sup>3636</sup> The declaration emphasizes APEC’s commitment to free and open trade and investment by 2020.<sup>3637</sup>

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<sup>3630</sup> Mr. Seko, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry and Minister for Economic Cooperation with Russia, Holds a Meeting with H.E. Mr. Arkady Vladimirovich Dvorkovich, Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 2 October 2017. Access Date: 27 November 2017. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1002\\_003.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1002_003.html).

<sup>3631</sup> Japan’s Economic Cooperation with Russia, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 13 October 2016. Access Date: 27 November 2017. <http://www.meti.go.jp/english/mobile/2016/20160921001en.html>.

<sup>3632</sup> Announcement of the Elements Concerning Tariff Rates of Industrial Goods under the Agreement in Principle on the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 2 November 2017. Access Date: 27 November 2017. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1102\\_003.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1102_003.html).

<sup>3633</sup> 2017 APEC Ministerial Meeting Joint Ministerial Statement, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Da Nang) 8 November 2017. Access Date: 7 December 2017. [https://www.apec.org/Meeting-Papers/Annual-Ministerial-Meetings/2017/2017\\_amm](https://www.apec.org/Meeting-Papers/Annual-Ministerial-Meetings/2017/2017_amm).

<sup>3634</sup> METI Minister Seko Visits the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of the Philippines, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 7 December 2017. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1114\\_002.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1114_002.html).

<sup>3635</sup> METI Minister Seko Visits the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of the Philippines, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 7 December 2017. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1114\\_002.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1114_002.html).

<sup>3636</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018. [https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

<sup>3637</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018. [https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

On 8 December 2017, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker confirmed the finalisation of negotiations on the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement, which will reduce trade barriers and advance free trade.<sup>3638</sup>

On 12 December 2017, Minister Seko met with European Commissioner for Trade Cecilia Malmstrom, and United States Representative Ambassador Robert Lighthizer in Buenos Aires on the margin of 11th WTO Ministerial Meeting (MC11).<sup>3639</sup> The three ministers agreed to strengthen cooperation in fields including severe excess capacity, market distorting subsidies and forced transfer of technologies to eliminate these and other unfair marketing distorting and protectionist practices by third countries.<sup>3640</sup>

On 13 December 2017, Minister Seko, Australia Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Steven Ciobo, Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry Lim Hng Kiang co-chaired a Ministerial meeting on electronic commerce in Buenos Aires on the margin of 11th WTO Ministerial Meeting.<sup>3641</sup> Ministers representing 70 WTO members shared the goal of advancing electronic commerce work and agreed to work together toward future WTO negotiation on trade-related aspects of electronic commerce.<sup>3642</sup>

On 3 March 2018, Minister Seko attended the fourth Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Intersessional Ministerial Meeting in Singapore.<sup>3643</sup> The ministers discussed on the tariff modification and worked together on improving offers across all modes of supply on services. They also negotiated on rules towards facilitating trade and investment in support of the expansion.<sup>3644</sup>

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jamie Huiyi Chen*

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<sup>3638</sup> Joint Statement by the President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker and the Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 8 November 2017. Access Date: 6 January 2018.

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000315382.pdf>.

<sup>3639</sup> Joint Statement, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 12 December 2017. Access Date: 6 January 2018.

<http://www.meti.go.jp/press/2017/12/20171213001/20171213001-1.pdf>.

<sup>3640</sup> Joint Statement, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 12 December 2017. Access Date: 6 January 2018.

<http://www.meti.go.jp/press/2017/12/20171213001/20171213001-1.pdf>.

<sup>3641</sup> Japan, Australia and Singapore co-chair a Ministerial Meeting on Electronic Commerce in the margins of the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference and 70 WTO Members issue a Joint Statement, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 13 December 2017. Access Date: 6 January 2018. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1213\\_006.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1213_006.html).

<sup>3642</sup> Japan, Australia and Singapore co-chair a Ministerial Meeting on Electronic Commerce in the margins of the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference and 70 WTO Members issue a Joint Statement, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 13 December 2017. Access Date: 6 January 2018. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1213\\_006.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1213_006.html).

<sup>3643</sup> Joint Statement of The Fourth Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Intersessional Ministerial Meeting, ASEAN (Singapore) 3 March 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2018. <http://asean.org/storage/2018/03/JMS-4th-RCEP-ISSL-MM-FINAL-0303181.pdf>.

<sup>3644</sup> Joint Statement of The Fourth Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Intersessional Ministerial Meeting, ASEAN (Singapore) 3 March 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2018. <http://asean.org/storage/2018/03/JMS-4th-RCEP-ISSL-MM-FINAL-0303181.pdf>.

**Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices..

On 23 August 2017, Korean representatives at the Korea-United States (KORUS) Free Trade Agreement Joint Committee meeting proposed a joint study to examine the effects of the agreement before discussing revisions.<sup>3645</sup>

On 24 August 2017, Trade Minister Kim Hyun-Chong presided a meeting with trade industry representatives, stating that the government will actively respond to trade protectionism and boost cooperation with emerging markets.<sup>3646</sup>

On 6 September 2017, President Moon Jae-in and Russian President Vladimir Putin agreed to collaborate on a free trade agreement between Korea and the Eurasian Economic Union, and to form a joint working unit between Moscow and Seoul to address this.<sup>3647</sup> They agreed to expand bilateral trade volume to USD30 billion and the number of people-to-people exchanges to more than 1 million by 2020.<sup>3648</sup>

On 8 September 2017, Minister Kim and Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) ministers agreed to accelerate negotiations for further liberalization under the Korean-ASEAN free trade agreement, which has grown bilateral trade by 5.7 per cent on average each year since it entered into force.<sup>3649</sup>

On 10 September 2017, Minister Kim and other members of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreed to accelerate negotiations for a regional free trade agreement.<sup>3650</sup> Trade

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<sup>3645</sup> Korea, US hold special session of the KORUS FTA Joint Committee in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 23 August 2017. Access Date: 15 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=614&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=41&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=614&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=41&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3646</sup> Trade Minister presides meeting to review exports in major sectors, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 August 2017. Access Date: 15 February 2018.

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<sup>3647</sup> Korea is best partner for developing Russian Far East, Office of the President (Seoul) 7 September 2017. Access Date: 15 February 2018.

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<sup>3648</sup> Korea is best partner for developing Russian Far East, Office of the President (Seoul) 7 September 2017. Access Date: 15 February 2018.

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<sup>3649</sup> Korea, ASEAN discuss further economic cooperation in Manila, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 15 February 2018.

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<sup>3650</sup> Trade Minister attends 5<sup>th</sup> RCEP Ministerial Meeting in Manila, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 11 September 2017. Access Date: 15 February 2018.

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Minister Kim Hyun-Chong emphasized the RCEP's importance to countering trade protectionism.<sup>3651</sup>

On 20 September 2017, Trade, Industry and Energy Minister Paik Ungyu and Swedish Minister for European Union Affairs and Trade Ann Linde discussed expansion of trade and investment between Sweden and Korea and joint responses to trade protectionism.<sup>3652</sup>

On 22 September 2017, Minister Paik, alongside other Asia-Europe Meeting ministers, adopted a joint statement that supports a multilateral trade system.<sup>3653</sup> This stemmed from discussions on promoting trade and responding to protectionism.<sup>3654</sup>

On 23 September 2017, Trade Minister Kim Hyun-Chong and Indian Minister of Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu agreed to accelerate negotiations to improve the Korea-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, including the bilateral trade pact.<sup>3655</sup>

On 5 October 2017, after the US pressured Korea, Korea agreed to renegotiate the current trading relationship between the two countries by eliminating protectionist practice and establishing a Free Trade Agreement between the two countries.<sup>3656</sup>

On 7 November 2017, President Moon and US President Donald Trump agreed to expedite the KORUS free trade consultation process in order to benefit from free, equitable, and balanced trade together.<sup>3657</sup>

On 9 November 2017, President Moon unveiled his "New Southern Policy," including goals to promote reciprocal economic cooperation within ASEAN and increase Korea-ASEAN trade volume

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<sup>3651</sup> Korea, ASEAN discuss further economic cooperation in Manila, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 15 February 2018.

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<sup>3652</sup> Minister Paik discusses economic cooperation with Swedish Trade Minister, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 22 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=626&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=626&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3653</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018.

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<sup>3654</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018.

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<sup>3655</sup> Korea, India sign agreed minutes at 3<sup>rd</sup> CEPA Joint Committee meeting, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018.

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<sup>3656</sup> Trump Scores First Win on 'Horrible' South Korea Trade Agreement, Newsweek (New York). 5 October 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017.

<http://www.newsweek.com/trump-scores-first-win-horrible-south-korea-trade-agreement-678892>.

<sup>3657</sup> Korea, US more than longstanding partners: Trump, Office of the President (Seoul) 8 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018.

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to USD200 billion by 2020.<sup>3658</sup> President Moon also described plans to expand items of trade between Indonesia and Korea and increase support for small and mid-sized businesses.<sup>3659</sup>

On 11 November 2017, President Moon, alongside other Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) leaders, adopted the Da Nang Declaration, reaffirming support for a rules-based, free, open, fair, transparent, and inclusive multilateral trading system.<sup>3660</sup> The declaration emphasizes APEC's commitment to free and open trade and investment by 2020.<sup>3661</sup>

On 13 November 2017, Minister Paik and Philippine's Secretary of Trade and Industry Ramon M. Lopez discussed bilateral trade and economic cooperation.<sup>3662</sup>

On 13 November 2017, Minister Paik discussed bilateral trade and investment with Vietnam's Industry and Trade Minister Tran Guan Anh.<sup>3663</sup>

On 14 November 2017, President Moon and Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong discussed how to enhance bilateral cooperation by improving the Korea-Singapore FTA.<sup>3664</sup>

On 14 November 2017, President Moon and Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev agreed to expand cooperation on trade.<sup>3665</sup>

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<sup>3658</sup> President Moon briefs media on 8-day Southeast Asia trip, Office of the President (Seoul) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018.

[https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19998&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=28](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19998&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=28).

<sup>3659</sup> President Moon briefs media on 8-day Southeast Asia trip, Office of the President (Seoul) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018.

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<sup>3660</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018.

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<sup>3661</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018.

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<sup>3662</sup> Korea, Philippines hold bilateral ministerial meeting, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 13 November 2017. Access Date: 18 February 2018.

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<sup>3663</sup> Minister Paik discusses trade, investment with Vietnam's Industry Minister, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 18 February 2018.

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<sup>3664</sup> President Moon holds summit with Singaporean leader, Office of the President (Seoul) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 18 February 2018.

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On 20 November 2017, Minister Paik and Uzbekistan's Deputy Prime Minister Jamshid Anvarovich Kuchkarov discussed a possible FTA between the two countries.<sup>3666</sup>

On 29 November 2017, President Moon and Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena signed an agreement to form a joint committee that enhances investment, trade, and tourism between Korea and Sri Lanka.<sup>3667</sup> They agreed to strengthen mutually beneficial cooperation.<sup>3668</sup>

On 7 December 2017, Korea held the inaugural meeting for its new Presidential Committee on Northern Economic Cooperation.<sup>3669</sup> This committee, under President Moon's "New Northern Policy," proposed placing bridges, cross-border railways, shipping routes, and more through Korea and Russia in order to build economic cooperation.<sup>3670</sup> The state-run Korean Export-Import Bank also unveiled a financial program to support USD2 billion in investments in Russia over the next three years.<sup>3671</sup>

On 14 December 2017, President Moon and Chinese President Xi Jinping agreed to increase strategic dialogues between presidents and senior cabinet members to develop bilateral cooperation, including trade.<sup>3672</sup>

On 15 December 2017, Minister Paik and Chinese Minister of Commerce Zhong Shan agreed to hold the first meeting for Korea-China free trade negotiations by February 2018.<sup>3673</sup>

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<sup>3665</sup> President Moon meets Russian PM, Office of the President (Seoul) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 18 February 2018.

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<sup>3666</sup> Minister Paik meets Uzbekistan's Deputy Prime Minister, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 23 November 2017. Access Date: 18 February 2018.

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<sup>3667</sup> Sri Lanka to be wonderful partner for New Southern Policy: president, Office of the President (Seoul) 30 November 2017. Access Date: 19 February 2018.

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<sup>3668</sup> Sri Lanka to be wonderful partner for New Southern Policy: president, Office of the President (Seoul) 30 November 2017. Access Date: 19 February 2018.

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<sup>3669</sup> S. Korea to step up economic cooperation with Russia, Yonhap News (Seoul) 7 December 2017. Access Date: 19 February 2018. <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2017/12/07/0200000000AEN20171207002751320.html>.

<sup>3670</sup> S. Korea to step up economic cooperation with Russia, Yonhap News (Seoul) 7 December 2017. Access Date: 19 February 2018. <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2017/12/07/0200000000AEN20171207002751320.html>.

<sup>3671</sup> S. Korea to step up economic cooperation with Russia, Yonhap News (Seoul) 7 December 2017. Access Date: 19 February 2018. <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2017/12/07/0200000000AEN20171207002751320.html>.

<sup>3672</sup> Korea, China vow to develop partnership on NK, economic issues, Office of the President (Seoul) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 19 February 2018.

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On 24 January 2018, in response to new US safeguard tariffs against Korea that Minister Kim described as “excessive,” Minister Kim announced measures that the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy would take, including filing a petition with the WTO.<sup>3674</sup>

On 31 January 2018, Korea held the second round of negotiations on amendments to the KORUS free trade agreement.<sup>3675</sup> Korean officials detailed to US representatives Korea’s stance on US trade remedies and emphasized the principle of reciprocity.<sup>3676</sup>

On 2 February 2018, Korea and the European Commission agreed to jointly respond to growing trade protectionism and to enhance cooperation in multilateral trade bodies.<sup>3677</sup>

On 20 February 2018, President Moon and Slovenian President Borut Pahor agreed to cooperate on the Koper Port, a shipping and transportation route used by many Korean car and steel companies to enter Central and Eastern Europe, enhancing bilateral cooperation.<sup>3678</sup>

On 21 February 2018, Minister Kim signed free trade agreements with ministers from five Central American countries, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Panama.<sup>3679</sup>

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Rosie Fan*

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<sup>3673</sup> Minister Paik meets with China’s Commerce Minister, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 19 February 2018.

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<sup>3674</sup> Trade Minister Kim hosts meeting to discuss measures against US tariffs on washers and solar cells, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 24 January 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=661&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=1&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=661&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=1&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3675</sup> Korea, US conclude second meeting on amendments to FTA in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 2 February 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=615&bbs\\_cd\\_n=2&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=1&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=615&bbs_cd_n=2&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=1&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3676</sup> Korea, US conclude second meeting on amendments to FTA in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 2 February 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=615&bbs\\_cd\\_n=2&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=1&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=615&bbs_cd_n=2&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=1&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3677</sup> Korea-EU FTA committee discusses stronger trade ties in Brussels, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 2 February 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=616&bbs\\_cd\\_n=2&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=1&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=616&bbs_cd_n=2&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=1&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3678</sup> President Moon holds summit with Slovenian counterpart, Office of the President (Seoul) 21 February 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018.

[https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=1&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=20256&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=42](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=1&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=20256&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=42).

<sup>3679</sup> Trade Minister signs Korea-Central America FTA in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 21 February 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=667&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=1&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=667&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=1&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

**Mexico: +1**

Mexico has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 18 July 2017, President Enrique Peña Nieto met with representatives of the European Union to discuss progress made in the process of updating the bilateral legal framework between Mexico and the EU. Both parties “endorsed their support for the modernization process.”<sup>3680</sup>

Between 16 August 2017 and 20 August 2017, Secretary of the Economy Ildefonso Guajardo, held talks with Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland and Robert Lighthizer, United States Trade Representative to renegotiate and modernize the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).<sup>3681</sup>

On 5 September 2017, President Nieto visited Xiamen, China, where he participated in the Dialogue of Emerging Economies and Developing Countries with Egypt, Guinea, Thailand, Tajikistan, and host country, China. The president urged “the need to continue deepening international cooperation for development, highlighting the need to defend free trade and strengthening the rules-based multilateral trading system.”<sup>3682</sup>

On 5 September 2017, President Nieto attended a working meeting with Yi Huiman, Executive Director of the Bank of Industry and Commerce of China, where both parties “reaffirmed their commitment to building an efficient, including financial system open to competition that provides more products and services in both Mexico and China.”<sup>3683</sup>

On 11 November 2017, President Nieto concluded his participation at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, where he stressed the importance of creating more and better mechanisms “to help the least developed countries cope with the effects of natural disasters and climate change by promoting more resilient economies.”<sup>3684</sup> Nieto also talked about the “importance of continuing to promote free trade to strengthen the processes of Asia-Pacific integration, and the need to make trade more inclusive, so that it benefits everyone. He said that it is essential to strengthen the capacities of micro,

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<sup>3680</sup> President Enrique Peña Nieto meets with Euro MPs from European People’s Party, Government of Mexico (Government of Mexico) 18 July 2017. Access Date: 1 January 2018.

<https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/en/prensa/president-enrique-pena-nieto-meets-with-euro-mps-from-european-people-s-party?idiom=en>.

<sup>3681</sup> Trilateral Statement on the Conclusion of NAFTA Round One, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 20 August 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2017/august/trilateral-statement-conclusion>.

<sup>3682</sup> Dialogue of Emerging Economies and Developing Countries, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 5 September 2017. Access Date: 1 January 2018. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/en/prensa/dialogue-of-emerging-economies-and-developing-countries-125239?idiom=en>.

<sup>3683</sup> President Enrique Peña Nieto meets with Executive Director of the Bank of Industry and Commerce of China. Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 5 September 2017. Access Date: 1 January 2018. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/en/prensa/president-enrique-pena-nieto-meets-with-executive-director-of-the-bank-of-industry-and-commerce-of-china?idiom=en>.

<sup>3684</sup> President Enrique Peña Nieto Concludes Participation in 25th APEC Leaders’ Meeting, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 11 November 2017. Access Date: 1 January 2018. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/en/prensa/president-enrique-pena-nieto-concludes-his-participation-in-the-25th-apec-leaders-meeting?idiom=en>.



small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) so that they can successfully participate in global value chains.”<sup>3685</sup>

On 11 November 2017, Mexico alongside other Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) members, adopted the Da Nang Declaration, reaffirming support for a rules-based, free, open, fair, transparent, and inclusive multilateral trading system.<sup>3686</sup> The declaration emphasizes APEC’s commitment to free and open trade and investment by 2020.<sup>3687</sup>

On 22 November 2017, the fifth round of discussions for the re-negotiations of the trade bloc of the North American Free Trade Agreement was concluded. Despite plans to reach a new trade agreement amongst the trade bloc by the end of 2017, talks are now scheduled to run through March 2018.<sup>3688</sup>

On 14 November 2017, President Nieto received Uruguayan President Tabaré Vázquez for working meetings, which resulted in the signing of three new instruments “concerning the exchange of information on customs issues; academic-diplomatic collaboration and innovation and entrepreneurship, and welcomed the entry into force of the Air Transport Convention, which will foster tourism and business trips.”<sup>3689</sup> In addition, the countries recognized the benefits from a bilateral Free Trade Agreement. The two leaders expressed interest in continuing to work to update and modernize the Free Trade Agreement between the two countries, in order to improve reciprocal trade and open up new avenues for trade with South America.<sup>3690</sup>

On 11 January 2018, President Nieto announced: “The Pacific Alliance will continue to be a priority of our foreign policy in the region. In 2018 we will seek to conclude negotiations aimed at granting Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Singapore the status of Associated State through the implementation of new trade agreements.”<sup>3691</sup> He argued that “our priority will be to complete the

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<sup>3685</sup> President Enrique Peña Nieto Concludes Participation in 25th APEC Leaders' Meeting, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 11 November 2017. Access Date: 1 January 2018. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/en/prensa/president-enrique-pena-nieto-concludes-his-participation-in-the-25th-apec-leaders-meeting?idiom=en>.

<sup>3686</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018. [https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

<sup>3687</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018. [https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

<sup>3688</sup> Preparing for the worst: On NAFTA, America, Canada and Mexico are miles apart, *The Economist* (London) 21 October 2017. Access Date: 14 January 2018. <https://www.economist.com/news/finance-and-economics/21730420-american-demands-are-so-extreme-some-suspect-it-not-wanting-deal-all>.

<sup>3689</sup> Mexico and Uruguay Confirm Strategic Links, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 1 January 2018. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/en/prensa/mexico-and-uruguay-confirm-strategic-links?idiom=en>.

<sup>3690</sup> Mexico and Uruguay Confirm Strategic Links, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 1 January 2018. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/en/prensa/mexico-and-uruguay-confirm-strategic-links?idiom=en>.

<sup>3691</sup> The greatness of a country is measured by the well-being of its people and the value of its contributions to the world: Enrique Peña Nieto. Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 11 January 2018. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/en/prensa/the-greatness-of-a-country-is-measured-by-the-well-being-of-its-people-and-the-value-of-its-contributions-to-the-world-enrique-pena-nieto>.

modernization and deepening of the economic agreements with Argentina and Brazil, promote the update of the Free Trade Agreement with Uruguay, and strengthen the rapprochement between Mercosur and the Pacific Alliance,” he said.

Mexico has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, Mexico receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jessica Afonso*

### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 2 August 2017, Russia reaffirmed its commitment against protectionist measures and its commitment to actively oppose trade and investment protectionism at the seventh BRICS Trade Ministers conference held in Shanghai.<sup>3692</sup>

On 6 September 2017, President Vladimir Putin and Korean President Moon Jae-in agreed to collaborate on a free trade agreement between Korea and the Eurasian Economic Union, and to form a joint working unit between Moscow and Seoul to address this.<sup>3693</sup> They agreed to expand bilateral trade volume to USD30 billion and the number of people-to-people exchanges to more than 1 million by 2020.<sup>3694</sup>

On 22 September 2017, Russia alongside other Asia-Europe Meeting members, adopted a joint statement that supports a multilateral trade system.<sup>3695</sup> This stemmed from discussions on promoting trade and responding to protectionism.<sup>3696</sup>

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<sup>3692</sup> Ministry of Commerce Holds Press Conference on 2017 BRICS Trade Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Commerce (Beijing) 4 August 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017.

<http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/newsrelease/press/201708/20170802622022.shtml>.

<sup>3693</sup> Korea is best partner for developing Russian Far East, Office of the President (Seoul) 7 September 2017. Access Date: 15 February 2018.

[http://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=3&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19719&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=17](http://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=3&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19719&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=17).

<sup>3694</sup> Korea is best partner for developing Russian Far East, Office of the President (Seoul) 7 September 2017. Access Date: 15 February 2018.

[http://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=3&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19719&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=17](http://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=3&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19719&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=17).

<sup>3695</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3696</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

On 1 October 2017, China and Russia as part of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) in Hangzhou, China signed a new agreement on “Trade and Economic Cooperation.”<sup>3697</sup> The agreement will remove non-tariff trade barriers, improve trade facilitation and “boost in-depth development of trade and partnerships” between China, Russia and all EAEU member countries.<sup>3698</sup>

On 8 November 2017, Russia at the 2017 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministers meeting in Da Nang, Vietnam reaffirmed its commitment to the role of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) for fair; transparent and predictable trade and recommitted its fight against protectionism and all unfair trade practices.<sup>3699</sup>

On 11 November 2017, Russia alongside other APEC members, adopted the Da Nang Declaration, reaffirming support for a rules-based, free, open, fair, transparent, and inclusive multilateral trading system.<sup>3700</sup> The declaration emphasizes APEC’s commitment to free and open trade and investment by 2020.<sup>3701</sup>

On 14 November 2017, at a ministerial meeting between Minister of Economic Development Maksim Oreshkin and Kazakhstan’s Minister of National Economy Timur Suelimenov reaffirmed the commitment to removing all barriers impeding the development of trade within the Eurasian Economic Community.<sup>3702</sup>

On 11 December 2017, at the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference held in Buenos Aires, Argentina and Russia reaffirmed its commitment the “centrality” of the rules based multilateral trading system and the bulwark against protectionism in the joint ministerial declaration.<sup>3703</sup>

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

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<sup>3697</sup> China and the EAEU Declared the Conclusion of negotiations on the Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation, Eurasian Economic Commission (Moscow) 2 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017 <http://eec.eaeunion.org/en/nae/news/Pages/2-10-2017-5.aspx>.

<sup>3698</sup> China Signs Economic and Trade Partnership Deal with Russia-Led EAEU, China Global Television Network (Beijing) 1 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017 [https://news.cgtn.com/news/3467444f78597a6333566d54/share\\_p.html](https://news.cgtn.com/news/3467444f78597a6333566d54/share_p.html).

<sup>3699</sup> 2017 APEC Ministerial Meeting Joint Ministerial Statement, Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://economy.gov.ru/en/home/press/news/201712111>.

<sup>3700</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018. [https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

<sup>3701</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018. [https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

<sup>3702</sup> Maksim Oreshkin: “It is necessary to remove all the barriers impeding the development of trade within the Eurasian Economic Community”, Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation (Moscow), 15 November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://economy.gov.ru/en/home/press/news/201715116>.

<sup>3703</sup> More than 40 ministers issue joint statement affirming support for the WTO, World Trade Organization (Geneva), 11 December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news17\\_e/mc11\\_11dec17\\_e.html](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news17_e/mc11_11dec17_e.html).

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Joe Wu*

### **Saudi Arabia: +1**

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 14 August 2017, Minister of Commerce and Investment Dr. Al Qasadi issued the cabinet decision to establish the Saudi-Iraqi Coordination Council to enhance communication and cooperation of two countries in fields including economy, trade and investment.<sup>3704</sup>

On 27 September 2017, Minister Al Qassabi met the Malaysian Minister of International Trade and Industry, Mustafa Mohammed in Jeddah to discuss the trade and investment opportunities, in line with the Vision 2030 which is a plan to diversify the economy and build the role as a integral driver of international trade and to connect Africa, Asia and Europe.<sup>3705</sup>

On 2 October 2017, the Saudi Commercial Attache in Rome held a trade exhibition that introduced investment opportunities and environment in Saudi Arabia, as well as the Vision 2030 to 145 leading Italian companies.<sup>3706</sup>

On 11 October 2017, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) signed three agreement including entrepreneurship, agricultural investment and governance on the Saudi-UAE Business Forum, which aimed to enhance the bilateral relations of the two countries in the fields of economic, trade and investment.<sup>3707</sup>

On 22 October 2017, Saudi Arabia and Iraq stressed the need to work together to eliminate the obstacles of trade between the two countries during a meeting between King Al Saud and the Iraqi Prime Minister Dr. Haider Al Abadi.<sup>3708</sup>

On 23 October 2017, the Saudi-Swedish Joint Committee held meetings in Riyadh to discussed the investment opportunities in both countries and the contribution of the government and private sector to the development of bilateral relations in various sectors.<sup>3709</sup> The Minister of Commerce and

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<sup>3704</sup> MCI, Establishing The Saudi-Iraqi Coordination Council Sets Up A New Era And It Is A Qualitative Leap In The Trade Relations Between The Two Countries, Minister of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 14 August 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/14-08-17-01.aspx>.

<sup>3705</sup> Introduction, Saudi Vision 2030 (Riyadh). Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://vision2030.gov.sa/en/node/132>

<sup>3706</sup> The Saudi Commercial Attaché In Rome Stimulates 145 Italian Companies To Invest In The Kingdom, Minister of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 2 October 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/02-10-17-02.aspx>.

<sup>3707</sup> Holding The Saudi-Uae Business Forum And Signing 3 Partnership Agreements, Related To Entrepreneurship, Agricultural Investment And Governance, Minister of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 11 October 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/11-10-17-02.aspx>.

<sup>3708</sup> Saudi-Iraqi Joint Statement Issued Today, Minister of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 22 October 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/22-10-17-04.aspx>.

<sup>3709</sup> The Saudi-Swedish Joint Committee Discusses Promoting Trade Relations And Investment Opportunities. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 23 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <https://m.mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/23-10-17-02.aspx>.

Investment, Dr. Al Qasabi recognized Sweden as a potential partner to cooperate with Saudi Arabia in the Vision 2030.<sup>3710</sup>

From 31 October 2017 to 2 November 2017, the Saudi-Russian Joint Committee held the fifth session to discuss the bilateral trade relations.<sup>3711</sup> It aims to aim to activate trade and investment partnership in the fields of trade, investment, finance, banking, energy, telecommunications and information technology, and the use of nuclear energy and outer space for peaceful purposes.<sup>3712</sup>

On 8 November 2017, the Saudi-Turkman Joint Committee held its fifth session to discuss the agenda to enhance trade and investment relations and partnership among its private sectors. The Minister of Commerce and Investment, Dr Majid Al Qasabi addressed the great potential of the Kingdom and Turkmenistan on the promoting and development of trade exchange.<sup>3713</sup>

On 14 November 2017, Minister Al Qasabi met with the ambassadors of 21 EU countries.<sup>3714</sup> The attendants discussed strengthening of cooperation and trade, as well as investment opportunities between the Kingdom and European Union countries. The meeting resulted in the establishment of a working group from the Trade and Investment System and EU countries to improve the balance of trade between EU and to encourage the European companies to invest in various fields.<sup>3715</sup>

On 22 November 2017, Minister Al Qasabi, the Turkish Economy Minister Nihad Zibekji and businessmen from both countries attended the Saudi-Turkish Business & Investment Forum, which aims to enhance the trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.<sup>3716</sup> Both Al Qasabi and Zibekji expressed the importance of trade relations and economic integration between the two countries.<sup>3717</sup>

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<sup>3710</sup> The Saudi-Swedish Joint Committee Discusses Promoting Trade Relations And Investment Opportunities. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 23 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017.

<https://m.mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/23-10-17-02.aspx>.

<sup>3711</sup> The Kingdom Of Saudi Arabia And Russia Enhance Trade And Investment Partnership. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 2 November 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017.

<https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/02-11-17-01.aspx>.

<sup>3712</sup> The Kingdom Of Saudi Arabia And Russia Enhance Trade And Investment Partnership. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 2 November 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017.

<https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/02-11-17-01.aspx>.

<sup>3713</sup> The Saudi-Turkmen Joint Committee Discusses Enhancing Trade And Investment Relations. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 8 November 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017.

<https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/08-11-17-02.aspx>.

<sup>3714</sup> H.E. Dr. Al-Qasabi Meets The Ambassadors Of 21 European Countries To Discuss The Promotion Of Trade Cooperation. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017.

<https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/14-11-17-01.aspx>.

<sup>3715</sup> H.E. Dr. Al-Qasabi Meets The Ambassadors Of 21 European Countries To Discuss The Promotion Of Trade Cooperation. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017.

<https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/14-11-17-01.aspx>.

<sup>3716</sup> H.E. The Turkish Minister Of Economy Hails The Kingdom's Nuom Project And Its Added Value To The Economy In The Region. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 22 November 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017.

<https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/22-11-17-03.aspx>.

<sup>3717</sup> H.E. The Turkish Minister Of Economy Hails The Kingdom's Nuom Project And Its Added Value To The Economy In The Region. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 22 November 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017.

<https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/22-11-17-03.aspx>.

On 7 December 2017, the Saudi-Portuguese Joint Committee held its fourth ministerial meeting in Lisbon. Both sides agreed to enhance visits of specialized delegations and investors in sectors that have mutual interests and increase bilateral trade and investment flows.<sup>3718</sup>

On 11 December 2017, Minister Al Qasabi and Portuguese Economy Minister Cabral discussed trade and investment cooperation between Saudi Arabia and Portugal.<sup>3719</sup>

On 13 December 2017, the Saudi Arabian delegation, headed by Minister Al Qasabi, attended the 11th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO).<sup>3720</sup> The joint declaration emphasized the importance of the multilateral trading system and stressed that the expansion of world trade is based on openness, transparency and integration within the WTO.<sup>3721</sup> Al Qasabi pointed out the importance of integrating Arab countries in trade and stressed the need to support the Arab countries seeking to join WTO.<sup>3722</sup>

On 20 February 2018, the 12th session of the Saudi-India Joint Committee was held in Riyadh.<sup>3723</sup> Both countries agreed to make joint efforts in increase the volume of mutual investments, especially in the priority sectors and increase the bilateral trade volume.<sup>3724</sup>

On 9 March 2018, the United Kingdom Digital and Culture Secretary Matt Hancock and his Saudi counterpart Ahmed Al Khateeb signed a Memorandum of Understanding regarding arts, leisure and entertainment with the goal of setting up closer trade exchange.<sup>3725</sup>

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jamie Huiyi Chen*

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<sup>3718</sup> The Saudi-Portuguese Joint Committee Holds Its Fourth Session Today in Lisbon. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 7 December 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/07-12-17-01.aspx>.

<sup>3719</sup> H.E. Dr. Al Qasabi Meets The Portuguese Economy Minister & Chairman Of The Portuguese Foreign Trade Commission For Discussing The Enhancement Of Investment Opportunities. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 11 December 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/11-12-17-01.aspx>.

<sup>3720</sup> H.E. Dr. Al-Qasabi Heads The Kingdom's Delegation To The 11th Ministerial Conference Of WTO. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 13 December 2017. Access Date: 28 February 2018. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/13-12-17-01.aspx>.

<sup>3721</sup> H.E. Dr. Al-Qasabi Heads The Kingdom's Delegation To The 11th Ministerial Conference Of WTO. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 13 December 2017. Access Date: 28 February 2018. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/13-12-17-01.aspx>.

<sup>3722</sup> H.E. Dr. Al-Qasabi Heads The Kingdom's Delegation To The 11th Ministerial Conference Of WTO. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 13 December 2017. Access Date: 28 February 2018. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/13-12-17-01.aspx>.

<sup>3723</sup> Riyadh Hosts The 12th Session Of The Saudi-India Joint Committee. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 6 February 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2018. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/06-02-18-01.aspx>.

<sup>3724</sup> Riyadh Hosts The 12th Session Of The Saudi-India Joint Committee. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 6 February 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2018. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/06-02-18-01.aspx>.

<sup>3725</sup> Britain and Saudi Arabia to strengthen cultural links and boost trade, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 9 March 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-and-saudi-arabia-to-strengthen-cultural-links-and-boost-trade>.

### South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 7 July 2017, South Africa signed the agreement establishing the Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) in Kampala, Uganda during the meeting of the tripartite Sectoral Ministers Committee. TFTA comprises an integrated market of 26 countries with a combined population of 625 million people and a total GDP of \$1.6 trillion.<sup>3726</sup> TFTA is a proposed African free trade agreement between the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Southern African Development Community (SADC) and East African Community (EAC). The main objective of the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite is strengthening and deepening economic integration of the southern and eastern Africa region.<sup>3727</sup>

On 21 July 2017, South Africa and Indonesia agreed to identify sectors to exploit existing investment opportunities in both countries. Currently, there is no investment between the two countries. The two countries agreed to work closely to facilitate the business-to-business contact and also support each other in diversifying exports and improving the structure of trade.<sup>3728</sup>

On 18 September 2017, the Minister of Trade and Industry Rob Davis and Deputy Minister Buleani Magwanishe attended the Informal Meeting of African Unions Ministers of Trade on the World Trade Organization (WTO) issues.<sup>3729</sup> Minister Davies and Deputy Minister Magwanishe reaffirmed the position of South Africa on the importance of building multilateral trading system that supported the industrial development of African economies.<sup>3730</sup>

On 5 October 2017, during the third session of South Africa-Turkey Joint Economic Commission, South Africa and Turkey committed to strengthen trade and economic relations between two countries and support mutual investments through the exchange of business delegation visits.<sup>3731</sup> Minister Davis expressed satisfaction of Turkey's efforts in reaching out into the African continent and also emphasized the priority of regional integration of Africa to expand the market and support diversification within the continent.<sup>3732</sup>

On 14 October 2017, South Africa and Chile agreed to enhance cooperation in trade and investment under the Joint Trade and Investment Commission (JTIC) during the 4th South Africa-Chile JTIC

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<sup>3726</sup> South Africa Signs the Tripartite Free Trade Area Agreement. The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 7 July 2017. Access Date: 30 December 2017. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4122>.

<sup>3727</sup> Tripartite Cooperation. Southern African Development Community (Gaborone) Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://www.sadc.int/about-sadc/continental-interregional-integration/tripartite-cooperation/>.

<sup>3728</sup> SA And Indonesia Agree to Identify Sectors to Exploit Investment Opportunities. The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 21 July 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4131>.

<sup>3729</sup> Minister Davies and Deputy Minister Magwanishe Conclude Visit to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for the African Union Informal Meeting on the WTO. The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 19 September 2017. Access Date: 30 December 2017. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4212>.

<sup>3730</sup> Minister Davies and Deputy Minister Magwanishe Conclude Visit to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for the African Union Informal Meeting on the WTO. The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 19 September 2017. Access Date: 30 December 2017. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4212>.

<sup>3731</sup> SA and Turkey Commit to Enhancing Trade and Economic Relations. The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 5 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4235>.

<sup>3732</sup> SA and Turkey Commit to Enhancing Trade and Economic Relations. The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 5 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4235>.

meeting held in Pretoria.<sup>3733</sup> The Chief Director of Bilateral Relations at the Department of Trade and Industry, Victor Mashabela, also agreed to support the formation of a Business Council between South Africa and Chile.<sup>3734</sup>

On 20 October 2017, South Africa expressed concern on trade protectionism during the 20th African, Caribbean and Pacific Ministerial Committee in Brussels, Belgium.<sup>3735</sup> Minister Davis stated that increasingly Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures and standards are barriers to international trade and this affects especially small and medium enterprises.<sup>3736</sup>

On 21 October 2017, South Africa and Ireland identified high-potential areas for cooperation and agreed to focus on increasing bilateral trade and investment in both directions over the coming years on the 5th session of South Africa-Ireland Partnership Forum.<sup>3737</sup>

On 10 November 2017, South Africa and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) agreed to remove hurdles that hinder businesses interactions between business people of the two countries, during the Investment and Trade Initiative seminar organized by the Department of Trade and Industry.<sup>3738</sup> Andrew Maswanganye, the South African Consul General in Lubumbashi, DRC, addressed the importance to identify opportunities to facilitate the businesspeople in order to increase trade and investment between the two countries.<sup>3739</sup>

From 10 December 2017 to 13 December 2017, Minister Davies, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Senzeni Zokwana and Deputy Minister Magwanishe attended the 11th WTO ministerial conference. Minister Davies stated that it is important to define a new form of “inclusive multilateralism” during a time of increasing backlash against multilateralism and trade liberalization.<sup>3740</sup> Minister Davies addressed that the developing countries need a differentiated set of obligations and rules while WTO rejected the differential treatment, which led to the lack of consensus at the meeting.<sup>3741</sup>

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<sup>3733</sup> SA and Chile Agree to Enhance Trade and Investment. The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 14 October 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4247>.

<sup>3734</sup> SA and Chile Agree to Enhance Trade and Investment. The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 14 October 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4247>.

<sup>3735</sup> South Africa is Concerned that Trade Protectionism is on the Rise. The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 20 October 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4254>.

<sup>3736</sup> South Africa is Concerned that Trade Protectionism is on the Rise. The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 20 October 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4254>.

<sup>3737</sup> Joint Communique on the occasion of the Fifth South Africa-Ireland Partnership Forum, Pretoria, 31 October 2017. The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Pretoria) 31 October 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <http://www.dirco.gov.za/docs/2017/irel1101.html>.

<sup>3738</sup> South Africa and DRC to Remove Obstacles to Doing Business. The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 10 November 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4284>.

<sup>3739</sup> South Africa and DRC to Remove Obstacles to Doing Business. The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 10 November 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4284>.

<sup>3740</sup> South Africa to Participate at WTO 11th Ministerial Conference, The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 9 December 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4302>.

<sup>3741</sup> No Multilateral Outcomes at the 11th Ministerial Conference, The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 10 December 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4305>.



On 15 December 2017, South Africa announced the reduction of tariff in fish, textile and clothing, which will be implemented on January 1, 2018, through the economic partnership agreement between the EU and the SADC members.<sup>3742</sup>

On 31 January 2018, Deputy Minister Magwanishe and Uganda Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Kyambadde made joint declarations to facilitate trade and investment flows following the principles in the Trade Agreement signed in 2002 and the Tripartite Free Trade Area (T-FTA) negotiations.<sup>3743</sup> The ministers also emphasized collaboration on the harmonization of standards in order to facilitate the smooth flow of trade and promoting private sector engagement.<sup>3744</sup>

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jamie Huiyi Chen*

### **Turkey: 0**

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 2 August 2017, Turkey and the United Kingdom agreed on a new export partnership through which they will co-finance projects and contracts to increase trade between the two countries.<sup>3745</sup>

On 10 August 2017, Minister of Customs and Trade Bülent Tufenkci met with Sudanese Minister of State of Trade.<sup>3746</sup> Both stated the importance of building an economic and trading partnership between the two countries.<sup>3747</sup>

On 14 August 2017, Minister Tufenkci met with Sri Lanka's Minister to enhance cooperation on trade.<sup>3748</sup>

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<sup>3742</sup> Explanatory Memorandum, Amendment for Implementation on 1 January 2018, South African Revenue Services (Pretoria) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <http://www.sars.gov.za/AllDocs/Embargo/Tariffs/LAPD-LSec-CE-TA-2017-065%20-%20Explanatory%20Memorandum.pdf>.

<sup>3743</sup> SA and Uganda Commit to Facilitating Trade and Investment Flows, The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 28 January 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2018. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4322>.

<sup>3744</sup> SA and Uganda Commit to Facilitating Trade and Investment Flows, The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 28 January 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2018. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4322>.

<sup>3745</sup> Press: New export partnership with Turkey to boost UK trade, UK Export Finance (London). 2 August 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-export-partnership-with-turkey-to-boost-uk-trade>.

<sup>3746</sup> Press: Visit of Sudan Trade Minister, Ministry of Customs and Trade (Ankara) 10 August 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://english.gtb.gov.tr/news/visit-of-sudan-trade-minister>.

<sup>3747</sup> Press: Visit of Sudan Trade Minister, Ministry of Customs and Trade (Ankara) 10 August 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://english.gtb.gov.tr/news/visit-of-sudan-trade-minister>.

<sup>3748</sup> Press: State Minister for International Trade of Sri Lanka paid a courtesy visit, Ministry of Customs and Trade (Ankara) 14 August 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://english.gtb.gov.tr/news/state-minister-for-international-trade-of-sri-lanka-paid-a-courtesy-visit>.

On 5 October 2017, during the third session of South Africa-Turkey Joint Economic Commission (JSE), South Africa and Turkey committed to strengthen trade and economic relations between two countries and support mutual investments through the exchange of business delegation visits.<sup>3749</sup>

On 24 October 2017, Minister Tufenkci met with the United States Chamber of Commerce Vice Chairman, Myran Brilliant, in order to discuss the importance of the trade and investments relations between the two countries.<sup>3750</sup>

Between 14-16 December 2017, Turkey and Sudan concluded the fifth round of negotiations of the Turkey-Sudan Economic Partnership.<sup>3751</sup>

Turkey complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination. Turkey did not comply with its commitment to continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Adrien Blanchard*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 24 July 2017, the UK-United States Trade and Investment Working Group met for the first time to discuss commercial continuity as the UK transitions out of the European Union.<sup>3752</sup>

On 2 August 2017, the UK and Turkey agreed on a new export partnership through which they will co-finance projects and contracts to enhance trade between the two countries.<sup>3753</sup>

On 18 September 2017, Prime Minister Theresa May and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau discussed potential new bilateral arrangements for “seamless transition” after Brexit and to spread benefits of freer trade.<sup>3754</sup>

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<sup>3749</sup> SA and Turkey Commit to Enhancing Trade and Economic Relations. The Department of Trade and Industry (Pretoria) 5 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4235>.

<sup>3750</sup> Press: Visit of US Chamber of Commerce, Ministry of Customs and Trade (Ankara) 24 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://english.gtb.gov.tr/news/visit-of-us-chamber-of-commerce>.

<sup>3751</sup> Press: Turkey and Sudan Complete EPA Negotiations, Ministry of Customs and Trade (Ankara) 16 December 2017. <http://english.gtb.gov.tr/news/turkey-and-sudan-complete-epa-negotiations>.

<sup>3752</sup> Joint Release by USTR Ambassador Lighthizer and UK International Trade Secretary Dr. Liam Fox, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 24 July 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017.

<https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2017/july/joint-release-ustr-ambassador>.

<sup>3753</sup> Press: New export partnership with Turkey to boost UK trade, UK Export Finance (London) 2 August 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-export-partnership-with-turkey-to-boost-uk-trade>.

<sup>3754</sup> Prime Minister of Canada announces closer collaboration with the United Kingdom, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 18 September 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017 <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2017/09/18/prime-minister-canada-announces-closer-collaboration-united-kingdom>.

On 22 September 2017, the UK alongside other Asia-Europe Meeting members, adopted a joint statement that supports a multilateral trade system.<sup>3755</sup> This stemmed from discussions on promoting trade and responding to protectionism.<sup>3756</sup>

On 27 September 2017, the UK entered into dialogues with Columbia, Ecuador and Peru to replicate existing EU trade agreement.<sup>3757</sup>

On 9 December 2017, Minister of International Trade Greg Hands met with Qatar's Minister of Economy and Commerce, HE Sheikh Ahmed bin Jassim al Thani, for talks with regards to strengthening trade ties.<sup>3758</sup>

On 11 December 2017, during the World Trade Organization ministerial conference in Argentina, International Trade Secretary Dr. Liam Fox urged for an open and inclusive trading system, prioritizing progress on digital trade, services and support for small and medium enterprises, as well as helping developing countries benefit from trade.<sup>3759</sup>

On 15 December 2017, Minister Hands visited Bulgaria for exploratory talks regarding the possibility to advance the trading relationship between the UK and Bulgaria.<sup>3760</sup>

On 5 February 2018, Minister of State for Trade and Export Promotion Baroness Rona Fairhead visited India to launch the very first India-UK Createch Summit in the country's tech capital, Mumbai.<sup>3761</sup> This is the pinnacle of several trade missions aiming to intensify the exchange in the technology sector.

On 11 February 2018, the Trade Envoy to Egypt, Sir Jeffrey Donaldson visited Alexandria and Cairo for negotiations to deepen trade between the two countries in the sectors of oil and gas, education, infrastructure and health.<sup>3762</sup>

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<sup>3755</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3756</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3757</sup> UK to start new 'trade dialogue' with Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, Department for International Trade (London) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-start-new-trade-dialogue-with-colombia-ecuador-and-peru>.

<sup>3758</sup> International Trade minister holds UK-Qatar talks to strengthen trade, Department of International Trade (London) 9 December 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/international-trade-minister-holds-uk-qatar-talks-to-strengthen-trade>.

<sup>3759</sup> UK to lead call for free trade at WTO's biggest conference, Department for International Trade (London) 11 December 2017. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-lead-call-for-free-trade-at-wtos-biggest-conference>.

<sup>3760</sup> International Trade Minister visits Bulgaria to strengthen trade, British Embassy Sofia (Sofia) 15 December 2017, Access Date: 18 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/international-trade-minister-visits-bulgaria-to-strengthen-trade>.

<sup>3761</sup> UK trade minister visits India to boost creative ties, Department for International Trade India (Mumbai) 5 February 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-trade-minister-visits-india-to-boost-creative-ties>.

<sup>3762</sup> British Trade Envoy to Egypt visits Cairo and Alexandria, British Embassy Cairo (Cairo) 11 February 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-trade-envoy-to-egypt-visits-cairo-and-alexandria>.

On 21 February 2018, the Trade Envoy to Pakistan, Rehman Chishti “visited Pakistan with a trade delegation from the financial, professional and legal services sector, to explore infrastructure opportunities in Pakistan.”<sup>3763</sup>

On 9 March 2018, the Digital and Culture Secretary Matt Hancock and his Saudi counterpart Ahmed Al Khateeb signed a Memorandum of Understanding regarding arts, leisure and entertainment with the goal of setting up closer trade exchange.<sup>3764</sup>

The UK has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Crystal Wong*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 24 July 2017, the US and United Kingdom’s Trade and Investment Working Group met for the first time to discuss commercial continuity as the United Kingdom transitions out of the European Union.<sup>3765</sup>

Between 16 August 2017 and 20 August 2017, Robert Lighthizer, US Trade Representative, held talks with Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland and Mexican Secretary of the Economy Ildefonso Guajardo to renegotiate and modernize the North American Free Trade Agreement.<sup>3766</sup>

On 5 October 2017, after the US pressured Korea, Korea agreed to renegotiate the current trading relationship between the two countries by eliminating protectionist practice and establishing a Free Trade Agreement between the two countries.<sup>3767</sup>

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<sup>3763</sup> UK Trade Envoy explores infrastructure opportunities in Pakistan, Department for International Trade Pakistan (Islamabad) 21 February 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/world/organisations/department-for-international-trade-pakistan>.

<sup>3764</sup> Britain and Saudi Arabia to strengthen cultural links and boost trade, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 9 March 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-and-saudi-arabia-to-strengthen-cultural-links-and-boost-trade>.

<sup>3765</sup> Joint Release by USTR Ambassador Lighthizer and UK International Trade Secretary Dr. Liam Fox, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 24 July 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2017/july/joint-release-ustr-ambassador>.

<sup>3766</sup> Trilateral Statement on the Conclusion of NAFTA Round One, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 20 August 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2017/august/trilateral-statement-conclusion>.

<sup>3767</sup> Trump Scores First Win on ‘Horrible’ South Korea Trade Agreement, Newsweek (New York). 5 October 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://www.newsweek.com/trump-scores-first-win-horrible-south-korea-trade-agreement-678892>.

On 24 October 2017, Trade Chamber of Commerce Vice Chairman Myran Brilliant met with Turkey's Minister of Customs and in order to discuss the importance of the trade and investments relations between the two countries.<sup>3768</sup>

On 5 November 2017, President Donald Trump expressed his intention to revisit the US-Japan Trade Agreement in order to strike a better-balanced trade arrangement that would equally benefit both countries.<sup>3769</sup>

On 8 November 2017, the Commerce Department met with officials from Argentina in Washington to discuss the US' claims that a 70 per cent duty would be implemented on biodiesel imports from Argentina in the US. Argentinian President Mauricio Macri announced that Argentina would be willing to enforce a 15 per cent export tax on the product.<sup>3770</sup>

On 11 November 2017, the US alongside other Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) members, adopted the Da Nang Declaration, reaffirming support for a rules-based, free, open, fair, transparent, and inclusive multilateral trading system.<sup>3771</sup> The declaration emphasizes APEC's commitment to free and open trade and investment by 2020.<sup>3772</sup>

From 17 to 23 September 2017, representatives of the Department of State, Department of Treasury and the US trade commissioner welcomed German State Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy Matthias Machnig, to discuss the importance of the German-American trade and investment relation as well as to question the use of American sanctions.<sup>3773</sup>

On 7 November 2017, President Trump and Korean President Moon Jae-in agreed to expedite the free trade agreement consultation process in order to benefit from free, equitable, and balanced trade together.<sup>3774</sup>

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<sup>3768</sup> Press: Visit of US Chamber of Commerce, Ministry of Customs and Trade (Ankara) 24 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://english.gtb.gov.tr/news/visit-of-us-chamber-of-commerce>.

<sup>3769</sup> Trump knocks US-Japanese trade relationship as unfair, CNN US Edition (Atlanta) 5 November 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://www.cnn.com/2017/11/05/politics/trump-us-japanese-trade/index.html>.

<sup>3770</sup> Argentina at Mercy of Debt Markets to Fund Reforms, Macri Says, Bloomberg Politics (New York) 8 November 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-11-08/argentina-at-mercy-of-debt-markets-to-fund-reforms-macri-says>.

<sup>3771</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018.

[https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

<sup>3772</sup> APEC adopts Da Nang Declaration for multilateral trade, Office of the President (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018.

[https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=25](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19954&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=25).

<sup>3773</sup> Press: State Secretary Machnig travelling to the US from 17 to 23 September to discuss economic policy issues, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin). 15 September 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://www.bmw.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170915-machnig-travels-us-for-economic-discussion.html>.

<sup>3774</sup> Korea, US more than longstanding partners: Trump, Office of the President (Seoul) 8 November 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2018.

[https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard\\_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch\\_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch\\_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview\\_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19939&srh%5Bdetail\\_no%5D=22](https://english1.president.go.kr/korea/korea.php?srh%5Bboard_no%5D=29&srh%5Bsearch_type%5D=3&srh%5Bsearch_value%5D=trade&srh%5Bpage%5D=2&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&srh%5Bseq%5D=19939&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=22).

On 22 November 2017, President Trump imposed new sanctions on China to reduce Chinese exports to North Korea.<sup>3775</sup>

On 22 December 2017, the Trump administration enforced trade preference program eligibility making some of Ukraine's benefits under the Generalized System of Preferences Program and restore GSP eligibility to Argentina and The Gambia and Swaziland to the African Growth and Opportunity Act.<sup>3776</sup>

On 31 January 2018, the US attended the second round of negotiations on amendments to the United States–Korea Free Trade Agreement.<sup>3777</sup>

On 23 February 2018, the US and Australia agreed to intensify their support of digital trade and ensure an open, free and secure Internet and advocate for free and accessible global digital trade.<sup>3778</sup>

The United States complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination. However, the United States did not comply with its commitment to continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Abigail Lessard*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

On 18 July 2017, Mexico's President, Enrique Peña Nieto, met with representatives of the EU to discuss progress made in the process of updating the bilateral legal framework between Mexico and the EU. Both parties "endorsed their support for the modernization process."<sup>3779</sup>

On 11 August 2017, the EU imposed anti-dumping duties of 28.5 per cent on corrosion resistant steel products from China.<sup>3780</sup>

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<sup>3775</sup> President Trump Has Imposed New Sanctions on North Korea and Chinese Trading Firms, Time (Washington D.C.) 22 November 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://time.com/5034634/north-korea-china-sanctions-trade/>.

<sup>3776</sup> Trump Administration Enforces Trade Preference Program Eligibility, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 22 December 2017. Access Date: 10 January 2018. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2017/december/trump-administration-enforces>.

<sup>3777</sup> Korea, US conclude second meeting on amendments to FTA in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 2 February 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=615&bbs\\_cd\\_n=2&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=1&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=615&bbs_cd_n=2&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=1&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3778</sup> United States and Australia Intensify Cooperation on Digital Trade, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 23 February 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2018. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2018/february/united-states-and-australia>.

<sup>3779</sup> President Enrique Peña Nieto meets with Euro MPs from European People's Party, Government of Mexico (Government of Mexico) 18 July 2017. Access Date: 1 January 2018. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/en/prensa/president-enrique-pena-nieto-meets-with-euro-mps-from-european-people-s-party?idiom=en>.

On 20 September 2017, the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between the EU and Canada entered into force.<sup>3781</sup>

On 22 September 2017, the EU alongside other Asia-Europe Meeting members, adopted a joint statement that supports a multilateral trade system.<sup>3782</sup> This stemmed from discussions on promoting trade and responding to protectionism.<sup>3783</sup>

On 26 September 2017, the eu launched an online “Helpdesk” platform to facilitate exports into the European market.<sup>3784</sup>

On 1 October 2017, the regulation on autonomous trade measures between the EU and Ukraine went into force allowing for increased market access for certain Ukrainian agriculture products and eliminating duties for certain industrial products.<sup>3785</sup>

On 2 October 2017, the EU concluded a successful fifth round of trade negotiations with Mexico on a free trade agreement.<sup>3786</sup>

On 5 October 2017, the EU revised its anti-dumping and countervailing tariff criteria to reflect more closely the world relative price and combat domestic market price distortion.<sup>3787</sup>

On 6 October 2017, the EU reiterated its commitment to the elimination of farm export subsidies, submitting a revised export schedule to the World Trade Organization (WTO).<sup>3788</sup>

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<sup>3780</sup> The European Commission imposed provisional anti-dumping duties on steel products from China. European Commission, Trade, Policy, Actions Against Imports into the EU (Brussels) 11 August 2017. Access Date: 13 November 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1706&title=The-European-Commission-imposes-provisional-anti-dumping-duties-on-steel-products-from-China>.

<sup>3781</sup> EU-Canada trade agreement enters into force. European Commission (Brussels) 20 September 2017. Access: Date 2 November 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1723&title=EU-Canada-trade-agreement-enters-into-force>.

<sup>3782</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers’ Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3783</sup> Ministry hosts 7<sup>th</sup> ASEM Economic Ministers’ Meeting in Seoul, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 16 February 2018. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=628&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=628&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=31&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3784</sup> New Trade Helpdesk launched for businesses looking to export to the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 26 September 2017. Access Date: 1 November 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1728&title=New-Trade-Helpdesk-launched-for-businesses-looking-to-export-to-the-EU>.

<sup>3785</sup> Trade opening for Ukraine: Joint Statement by Commissioner Malmstrom and Deputy Minister Mykolska, European Commission (Brussels) 29 September 2017. Access Date: 2 November 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1730&title=Trade-opening-for-Ukraine-Joint-Statement-by-Commissioner-Malmstr%C3%B6m-and-Deputy-Minister-Mykolska>.

<sup>3786</sup> EU and Mexico conclude fifth round of trade negotiations with good progress made, European Commission (Brussels) 2 October 2017. Access Date: 2 November 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1732&title=EU-and-Mexico-conclude-fifth-round-of-trade-negotiations-with-good-progress-made>.

<sup>3787</sup> The EU is changing its anti-dumping and anti-subsidy legislation to address state induced market distortions, European Commission (Brussels) 5 October 2017. Access Date: 2 November 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1736&title=The-EU-is-changing-its-anti-dumping-and-anti-subsidy-legislation-to-address-state-induced-market-distortions>.

On 6 October 2017, anti-dumping duties between EUR17.6 and 96.5 per tonne came into effect on hot rolled flat steel from Brazil, Iran, Russia, and Ukraine. The total number of anti-dumping duties on steel products entering into the European Union is now 48.<sup>3789</sup>

On 9 October 2017, the European Commission decreased the import duty on rye, wheat and other cereal products.<sup>3790</sup>

On 13 November 2017, the European Commission announced that it would begin negotiations with Chile to update the 18-year old Association Agreement to bring its trading provision in line with the EU's modern agreements.<sup>3791</sup>

On 13 November 2017, EU and Mercosur continued negotiations to create a free trade agreement.<sup>3792</sup>

On 14 November 2017, Saudi Arabian Minister of Commerce and Investment Dr. Al Qasabi met with the ambassadors of 21 EU countries.<sup>3793</sup> The attendants discussed strengthening of cooperation and trade, as well as investment opportunities between the Kingdom and EU countries. The meeting resulted in the establishment of a working group from the Trade and Investment System and EU countries to improve the balance of trade between European Union and to encourage the European companies to invest in various fields.<sup>3794</sup>

On 15 November 2017, senior officials from India and the EU held discussions on a potential free trade agreement.<sup>3795</sup>

On 5 December 2018, the European Commission, Council, and European Parliament reached a political agreement on revisions to the EU's anti-dumping and anti-subsidy regulations.<sup>3796</sup> These

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<sup>3788</sup> Press Release: EU leads the way by eliminating export subsidies ahead of WTO conference in Buenos Aires, European Commission (Geneva) 6 October 2017. Access Date: 1 November 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1738&title=EU-leads-the-way-by-eliminating-export-subsidies-ahead-of-WTO-conference-in-Buenos-Aires>.

<sup>3789</sup> Commission imposes anti-dumping measures on steel producers from four countries, European Commission (Brussels) 6 October 2017. Access Date: 1 November 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1737&title=Commission-imposes-anti-dumping-measures-on-steel-producers-from-four-countries>.

<sup>3790</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1835 Fixing the import duties in the cereals sector applicable from 10 October 2017. EUROPA, EU Law and Publications, EUR-LEX (Brussels) 10 October 2017. Access Date : 1 November 2017. [http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg\\_impl/2017/1835/oj](http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2017/1835/oj).

<sup>3791</sup> Press Release: EU and Chile to start negotiations for a modernised Association Agreement, European Commission (Brussels) 13 November 2017. Access Date: 13 November 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1755>.

<sup>3792</sup> EU and Mercosur "very close" to reaching an accord, says top European official, MercoPress (Montevideo) 13 November 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://en.mercopress.com/2017/11/13/eu-and-mercosur-very-close-to-reaching-an-accord-says-top-european-official>.

<sup>3793</sup> H.E. Dr. Al-Qasabi Meets The Ambassadors Of 21 European Countries To Discuss The Promotion Of Trade Cooperation. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/14-11-17-01.aspx>.

<sup>3794</sup> H.E. Dr. Al-Qasabi Meets The Ambassadors Of 21 European Countries To Discuss The Promotion Of Trade Cooperation. Ministry of Commerce and Investment (Riyadh) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/14-11-17-01.aspx>.

<sup>3795</sup> India, EU hold discussions on proposed free trade agreement, The Economic Times (Mumbai) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. [https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-eu-hold-discussions-on-proposed-free-trade-agreement/articleshow/61662790.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-eu-hold-discussions-on-proposed-free-trade-agreement/articleshow/61662790.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst).



changes will revise the methodologies used to decide whether trade defence measures will be put in place and simplifies the processes for European companies to apply for a review of unfair import competition.<sup>3797</sup>

On 8 December 2018, the EU finalized an Economic Partnership Agreement with Japan, marking the “biggest bilateral trade agreement ever negotiated by the European Union.”<sup>3798</sup>

On 12 December 2017, Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hiroshige Seko met with Commissioner for Trade Cecilia Malmstrom, and United States Representative Ambassador Robert Lighthizer in Buenos Aires on the margin of 11th WTO ministerial meeting.<sup>3799</sup> The three ministers agreed to strengthen cooperation in fields including severe excess capacity, market distorting subsidies and forced transfer of technologies to eliminate these and other unfair marketing distorting and protectionist practices by third countries.<sup>3800</sup>

On 22 December 2017, an advisory group of 28 experts was established to review European Union trade agreements to “increase transparency and inclusiveness.”<sup>3801</sup>

On 4 January 2018, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission Federica Mogherini met with Cuban President Raul Castro to discuss potential opportunities for trade and investment including announcing upcoming agreements between the two countries in energy, agriculture, and services.<sup>3802</sup>

On 15 January 2018, the Trade Commission announced that they concluded trade talks with Mexico covering most areas including “competition, small and medium companies, transparency, sanitary issues, good regulatory practices and trade and sustainable development.”<sup>3803</sup> The parties committed to conclude talks on the remaining issues as early as possible.<sup>3804</sup>

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<sup>3796</sup> Press Release: Commission welcomes Landmark deal modernising the EU’s trade defence, European Commission (Brussels) 5 December 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1765&title=Commission-welcomes-landmark-deal-modernising-the-EUs-trade-defence>.

<sup>3797</sup> Press Release: Commission welcomes Landmark deal modernising the EU’s trade defence, European Commission (Brussels) 5 December 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1765&title=Commission-welcomes-landmark-deal-modernising-the-EUs-trade-defence>.

<sup>3798</sup> EU closes mammoth trade deal with Japan, Politico EU (Brussels) 8 December 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <https://www.politico.eu/article/eu-closes-mammoth-trade-deal-with-japan/>.

<sup>3799</sup> Joint Statement, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 12 December 2017. Access Date: 6 January 2018. <http://www.meti.go.jp/press/2017/12/20171213001/20171213001-1.pdf>.

<sup>3800</sup> Joint Statement, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 12 December 2017. Access Date: 6 January 2018. <http://www.meti.go.jp/press/2017/12/20171213001/20171213001-1.pdf>.

<sup>3801</sup> European Commission. Group Details — Commission Expert Groups, Register of Commission Expert Groups (Brussels) 14 September 2017. Access Date: 2 January 2018. <http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&groupID=3556&news=1>.

<sup>3802</sup> Top EU diplomat meets Cuban president at end of visit, Reuters (London) 4 January 2018. Access Date: 10 January 2017. <https://ca.reuters.com/article/topNews/idCAKBN1ET26C-OCATP>.

<sup>3803</sup> The EU and Mexico make progress in bridging remaining gaps in latest trade talks, European Commission (Brussels) 15 January 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1778>.

<sup>3804</sup> The EU and Mexico make progress in bridging remaining gaps in latest trade talks, European Commission (Brussels) 15 January 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1778>.

On 2 February 2018, Korea and the European Commission agreed to jointly respond to growing trade protectionism and to enhance cooperation in multilateral trade bodies.<sup>3805</sup>

On 8 February 2018, following a provisional duty imposed in August 2017, the European Commission confirmed countervailing duties would be imposed on Chinese steel for a period of five years. The anti-dumping duties will range from 17.2 — 27.9 per cent. Currently Chinese steel imports make-up approximately 20 per cent of the market for corrosion resistant steel in the EU.<sup>3806</sup>

On 26 February 2018, the EU completed a fourth round of negotiations with Indonesia towards the finalization of a free trade agreement. Topics of discussion included, “food and plant health, technical barrier to trade, investment and services.”<sup>3807</sup>

On 5 February 2018, the EU welcomed the assentation of Mozambique, marking the final stage of implementation for the Economic Partnership Agreement, first signed in October 2016 between the EU and the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC). Customs duties will be progressively reduced over several years.<sup>3808</sup>

On 31 January 2018, the European Commission imposed “definitive anti-dumping duties” on iron from China. After an investigation opened in December 2016, the EU concluded that Chinese iron casting were being sold at below market fair value and imposed a duty between 15.5 and 38.1 per cent.<sup>3809</sup>

On 2 March 2018, the EU and Singapore committed to finalizing a bilateral trade and investment agreement by the end of 2018, after a high-level meeting between Singapore’s Minister for Trade and Industry Lim Hng Kiang and Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom.<sup>3810</sup>

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to keep markets open noting the importance of reciprocal and mutually advantageous trade and investment frameworks and the principle of non-discrimination, and continue to fight protectionism including all unfair trade practices.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dillon Aube*

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<sup>3805</sup> Korea-EU FTA committee discusses stronger trade ties in Brussels, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Sejong) 2 February 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018.

[http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=616&bbs\\_cd\\_n=2&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=1&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=4](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/ftaeconomiccooperation/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=616&bbs_cd_n=2&view_type_v=TOPIC&&currentPage=1&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=4).

<sup>3806</sup> Trade Defence: Commission imposes definitive anti-dumping duties on Chinese corrosion resistant steel, European Commission (Brussels) 8 February 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1794>.

<sup>3807</sup> EU completes fourth round of trade negotiations with Indonesia, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2018. Access Date: 26 February 2018. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1800>.

<sup>3808</sup> Mozambique joins the Economic Partnership Agreement between the EU and Southern African States, European Commission (Brussels) 5 February 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1792>.

<sup>3809</sup> Commission imposes measures on cast iron products from China. European Commission (Brussels) 31 January 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1790>.

<sup>3810</sup> EU, ASEAN Ministers Call for Greater Efforts to Advance Trade Talks, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (Geneva) 8 March 2018. Access Date: 14 March 2018. <https://www.ictsd.org/bridges-news/bridges/news/eu-asean-ministers-call-for-greater-efforts-to-advance-trade-talks>.