

PRESS RELEASE



FRIDAY 13 OCTOBER
HALF DAY EVENT Starting 9:00 Sharp!
Venue: European Economic & Social Committee, 99 rue Belliard, Brussels

**TRADE IN SERVICES:
Unlocking a multi-trillion euro economy
for all and across sectors**

Free Registration
Please RSVP by Monday 9th October 2017 at brussels-events@humbrophy.com

FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKER Cecilia Malmström
EU Trade Commissioner

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Logos: FTA, BDO, IBM, telenor group, LE GROUPE LA POSTE, ESOA, ups, HUMME BROPHY, Borderlex, ECIPE, European Economic & Social Committee Employers Group

Trade in services issues are crucial components of EU Trade Agreements

Today the European Services Forum announced the appointment of its new Chairman, Mr. Noel Clehane, Global Head of Regulatory & Public Policy Affairs at BDO, the global auditing and professional services network.

The announcement coincides with the ESF's major conference in Brussels on "Trade in Services: Unlocking a multi-trillion-euro economy for all and across sectors", which attracted more than 250 participants and high-level speakers, including EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström.

Mr. Clehane stressed that "All exporters should look at the services components of trade negotiations, where crucial aspects like cross-border data flows, access for investment and movement of business personnel are dealt with".

EU Trade Commissioner Malmström said in her key note that the EU was "the largest exporter of services in the world with millions of jobs in the services sector. Our surplus for trade in services has increased to €130 billion in 2016". She then highlighted that "Today's modes of production blur the distinction between goods and services, where many EU services directly enable trade in goods. A global supply chain cannot exist without the support of services."

Outgoing ESF Chairman, Sir Thomas Harris, said: "Trade in services represents more than half of the total EU exports in value, with more than €900 billion in 2015, so services deserve high priority in EU trade agreements."

Other speakers from the WTO, OECD, European Commission and think-tanks picked up on the themes of trade in services, digitisation and the fact that many traditional manufacturing companies today are in practice increasingly also providers of services.

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