



European
Automobile
Manufacturers
Association



Cecilia Malmström
Commissioner for Trade
European Commission
B-1049
Per email

Brussels, 14th June 2019

Re: EU - Vietnam Trade Agreement

Dear Commissioner Malmström,

All of the signatories of this letter want to pay tribute to your work over the last five years as Commissioner for Trade. Your record speaks for itself, considering the number of negotiations that have been opened and concluded, the lead the EU has taken in supporting the reform of the World Trade Organisation and its long-term viability and for the transparency you brought in the EU trade policy. We would like to see the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA) added to these successes. The adoption of EVFTA would confirm the EU as a world leader when it comes to supporting free, fair and sustainable trade.

As European trade and business associations, we invite the Commission and the Romanian Presidency to engage with all Members of the Council in the coming weeks, in an effort to obtain the Council's adoption of the agreement by the end of June.

The EVFTA negotiations were concluded three years ago, but the agreement is still being considered at Council level. An adoption of the agreement under the Romanian Presidency would ensure that the newly elected Members of the European Parliament could start working on the approval of the agreement as soon as possible.

The EVFTA will help European companies entering this emerging market of 90 million people with a growing middle class. Currently our exporters face competition from countries that benefit from the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP). If European businesses cannot benefit from EVFTA as soon as possible due to delays in implementation, they will lose current and future market share in Vietnam. Similarly, Vietnam is an important sourcing market for the EU. EVFTA will set a precedent for trade and sustainable development with ASEAN and other developing countries seeking closer trade relations with the European Union. The Trade and Sustainable Development Chapter provides for continuous cooperation with Vietnam in this area and will encourage open dialogue on social and environmental issues. EVFTA will also help Vietnam's economic and social reforms and will link Vietnam more closely to Europe.



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In a time of rising protectionism, the Council should provide a strong message in favour of a closer link with the Asian region and further collaboration and cooperation in the area of sustainability.

Please rest assured that the undersigned are also engaging at national level to continue explaining the benefits that the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement will bring in terms of economic growth for both partners.

Cc:

Stephan Radu Oprea
Minister of Business Environment, Trade and Entrepreneurship
Romanian Presidency of the European Union

Cc:

Helena König
Deputy Director General
Directorate General for Trade
European Commission

SIGNATORIES

ACEA- European automobile manufacturers association

ACEA represents the 15 major Europe-based car, van, truck and bus manufacturers: BMW Group, DAF Trucks, Daimler, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, Ford of Europe, Honda Motor Europe, Hyundai Motor Europe, Iveco, Jaguar Land Rover, PSA Group, Renault Group, Toyota Motor Europe, Volkswagen Group, Volvo Cars, and Volvo Group.
www.acea.org

amfori – Trade with Purpose

amfori is the association of European and international commerce that promotes the values of open and sustainable trade. It brings together over 2,400 of retailers, importers, brand companies, and national associations to improve the political and legal frameworks for trade and sustainable development.
www.amfori.org

Comité Européen des Entreprises Vins (CEEV)

CEEV is the voice of the European wine companies. It brings together 24 national associations and its members produce and market the majority of quality European wines, with and without geographical indications, and account for over 90% of European wine exports. www.cee.eu

DIGITALEUROPE

DIGITALEUROPE is the leading trade association representing digitally transforming industries in Europe. We stand for a regulatory environment that enables European businesses and citizens to prosper from digital technologies. We wish Europe to grow, attract and sustain the world's best digital talents and technology



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companies. Together with our members, we shape the industry policy positions on all relevant legislative matters and contribute to the development and implementation of relevant EU policies. Our membership represents over 35,000 businesses who operate and invest in Europe. It includes 67 corporations which are global leaders in their field of activity, as well as 40 national trade associations from across Europe. www.digitaleurope.org

European Liaison Committee for the Agricultural and Agri-food Trade (CELCAA)

CELCAA is the EU umbrella association representing EU organisations covering the trade in cereals, grains, oils and fats, sugar, fruit and vegetables, olive oil, agro-supply, animal feed, wine, meat and meat products, dairy and dairy products, eggs and egg products, poultry and game, tobacco, spices, cut flowers and plants and general produces. Members include ASSUC, CEEV, CIBC, COCERAL, EUCOLAIT, EUWEP, FETRATAB, FRESHFEL, GAFTA, SACAR and UECBV. CELCAA's main objectives are to facilitate understanding of European decision-makers and stakeholders on the role played by the European traders in agri-products; to act as a platform of dialogue and communication with the European Institutions and to encourage public and general interests in agri-trade issues. www.celcaa.eu

European Services Forum (ESF)

The European Services Forum (ESF) is a private sector trade association that represents the interests of the European services industry in International Trade Negotiations in Services. It comprises major European service companies at the CEO level and European service sector federations covering service sectors such as financial services, tourism, telecommunications, maritime transport, business and professional services, distribution, postal and express delivery, IT services, environmental services and the audio-visual industry. www.esf.be

EuroCommerce

EuroCommerce is the principal European organisation representing the retail and wholesale sector. It embraces national associations in 31 countries and 5.4 million companies, both leading multinational retailers such as Carrefour, Ikea, Metro and Tesco, and many small family operations. Retail and wholesale provide a link between producers and 500 million European consumers over a billion times a day. It generates 1 in 7 jobs, providing a varied career for 29 million Europeans, many of them young people. It also supports millions of further jobs throughout the supply chain, from small local suppliers to international businesses. EuroCommerce is the recognised European social partner for the retail and wholesale sector. www.eurocommerce.eu

Federation of the European Sporting Goods Industry (FESI)

FESI is the representative body for the sporting goods sector in Europe. FESI engages with all European political institutions and other European authorities and bodies that are impacting the Sporting Goods industry. Moreover, FESI also represents the interest of its members vis a vis Sport Governing bodies such as UEFA. www.fesi-sport.org

spiritsEUROPE

spiritsEUROPE represents the interests of the spirits sector in 31 national associations as well as of the 9 leading multinational companies. Distilled spirits are as diverse as the EU's Member States, spanning 47 product categories and including a host of geographically-specific products that contribute to the culture of their regions and the European Union. As the leading voice of the European spirits sector, we seek to maintain and advance the freedom to produce and market spirits in a responsible way.

www.spirits.eu