

European Services Forum

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EU and Japan trade deal welcomed by the EU Service industries

- Brussels, 17 July 2018 -

The European Services Forum (ESF), representing the European service industries for international trade negotiations, welcomes the signature of the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement.

Noel Clehane, ESF Chairman, said:

"At this time where protectionism voices and actions are raising, it is more than welcomed that the EU and Japan have been able to conclude their bilateral trade deal. It is a highly ambitious agreement among two big trading blocs that represent 30% of the world GDP, an agreement that will offer new business and investment opportunities."

Beyond traditional removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade, the agreement is also going deep into further liberalisation in services sectors, in particular financial services, business services, ecommerce, telecommunications and transport, in public procurement and in setting up mechanisms for regulatory cooperation that will tackle behind the borders issues.

"We want to congratulate the negotiators for the deal signed today in Tokyo and we call upon the members of the European Parliament and of the Japanese Diet to ratify the agreement as soon as possible to allow a swift implementation" said Noel Clehane.

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