



The G7 Research Group presents the

2021 G7 Cornwall Summit Interim Compliance Report

14 June 2021 to 1 February 2022

Prepared by
Matthew Kieffer and Gabrielle Regimbal
and the G7 Research Group

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www.g7.utoronto.ca
g7@utoronto.ca
[@g7_rg](https://twitter.com/g7_rg)

“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,
in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit

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12. Trade: Free Trade

“Secure our future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.”

Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.63 (81%)	

Background

The modern world trading system was institutionally established with the Bretton Woods system after the Second World War. This was done through the creation of the International Trade Organization, a specialized agency to handle trade within the United Nations.¹⁴⁹⁹ On 30 October 1947, the first international trade regulation agreement was signed, known as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). GATT came into effect in January 1948 and regulated international trade by directing signatories to reduce tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade.

On 1 January 1995, the World Trade Organization (WTO) was formed in Geneva, Switzerland, as a successor to GATT.¹⁵⁰⁰ The WTO is a unified multilateral trade framework which calls to eliminate tariffs and other trade barriers in trade agreements and in the general conduct of international trade, settle disputes between parties of a trade agreement, and monitor the trade policies of WTO members. While GATT focused primarily on reciprocal reductions in tariffs on manufactured goods, the WTO has also included measures relating to non-tariff trade barriers, such as subsidy policies and regulatory standards.¹⁵⁰¹ The WTO’s goal of reducing trade barriers for goods, services, and intellectual property is currently the centre of the liberal international trading system which aims to fight protectionist trade measures and keep markets open.¹⁵⁰²

Trade as a commitment issue appeared at the first G6 summit – the 1975 Rambouillet Summit – in response to the rise in protectionism following the 1973-1975 Recession.¹⁵⁰³ In the Declaration of Rambouillet, G6 members pledged to make “new efforts in the areas of world trade,” “restore growth in the volume of world trade,” and accelerate multilateral trade negotiations. The 1975 Rambouillet Summit is also the first time in

¹⁴⁹⁹ The GATT years: from Havana to Marrakesh, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact4_e.htm

¹⁵⁰⁰ Overview, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/wto_dg_stat_e.htm

¹⁵⁰¹ The Uruguay Round, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact5_e.htm

¹⁵⁰² What is the WTO? - Who we are, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/who_we_are_e.htm

¹⁵⁰³ Declaration of Rambouillet, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 November 1975. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1975rambouillet/communique.html>

which G6 members promised to take unilateral domestic action, like policy or legal changes, to facilitate international trade.¹⁵⁰⁴

Discussions regarding unfair trade practices first appeared at the 1982 Versailles Summit, where leaders pledged to “rule out the use of [their] exchange rates to gain unfair competitive advantages.”¹⁵⁰⁵ After the 1982 Versailles Summit, “unfair trade practices” were not mentioned again at G7 summits until the 2009 G8 L’Aquila Summit, where the term “level playing field” was first applied in an economic context.¹⁵⁰⁶ However, since the 2009 L’Aquila Summit, the terms “level playing field” or “unfair trade practices” have been mentioned in every communiqué, except for the 2010 Muskoka Summit.

At the Uruguay Round in 1994, the WTO introduced new measures and policies intended to mitigate unfair trade practices and allow countries to fight against unfair trade practices within the WTO framework through a dispute settlement process.¹⁵⁰⁷ These policies included the Anti-Dumping Agreement, Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, Safeguards, Trade Policy Review Mechanism, Dispute Settlement Understanding, and several industry-specific measures to ensure fair practices across all industries around the world.

The 2000 Okinawa Summit was the first to pursue “facilitat[ion of] cross-border e-commerce by promoting further liberalisation” of international trade on information and communications technology.¹⁵⁰⁸ The 2007 Heiligendamm Summit was the first to promote the facilitation of international trade through an increase in enforcement of intellectual property rights.¹⁵⁰⁹ The 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Declaration forwarded the first linkage between facilitating international trade.¹⁵¹⁰ In light of the 2008 global financial crisis, the 2009 L’Aquila Summit continued the trend of “reject[ing] protectionism of any kind” during recessionary periods.¹⁵¹¹ The 2013 Lough Erne Summit is the first to facilitate international trade through the reduction and “streamlining” of “trade bureaucracy.”¹⁵¹²

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders pledged to “[stand] firm against all unfair trade practices.”¹⁵¹³ The 2017 Taormina Summit marked a shift in the G7’s prioritization of eliminating unfair trade practices, with the communiqué listing out for the first time, in detail, the types of practices that the G7 consider to be unfair, including protectionism, dumping, barriers to trade, forced technology transfers, subsidies and other practices that would “distort markets.”

¹⁵⁰⁴ Declaration of Rambouillet, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 November 1975. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1975rambouillet/communique.html>

¹⁵⁰⁵ Declaration of the Seven Heads of State and Government and Representatives of the European Communities, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 June 1982. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1982versailles/communique.html>

¹⁵⁰⁶ Responsible leadership for a sustainable future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.pdf>

¹⁵⁰⁷ WTO Legal Texts, World Trade Organization (Geneva) September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

https://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/legal_e.htm#a#antidump

¹⁵⁰⁸ Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2000. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm>

¹⁵⁰⁹ Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 June 2007. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-economy.html>.

¹⁵¹⁰ G8 Hokkaido Tokyo Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>.

¹⁵¹¹ Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html#trade>.

¹⁵¹² G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html#trade>

¹⁵¹³ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

At 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders “acknowledged that free, fair and mutually beneficial trade and investment, while creating reciprocal benefits are key engines for growth and job creation.”¹⁵¹⁴ The leaders also “underlined the crucial role of a rules-based international trading system and continue to fight protectionism.”

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, G7 leaders declared that “the G7 is committed to open and fair trade and to the stability of the global economy.”¹⁵¹⁵ The G7 also declared its desire to “overhaul the WTO to improve effectiveness with regard to intellectual property protection, to settle disputes more swiftly and to eliminate unfair trade practices.”

Commitment Features

The G7 commitment states that the members will “secure our future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.”¹⁵¹⁶ The welfare target of this commitment is to secure future prosperity, interpreted as economic prosperity. The instruments to achieve this welfare target are by championing 1. free trade; 2 fair trade; and 3. within a reformed trading system.

“Championing” is understood to mean the support or defense of a principle.¹⁵¹⁷ The term “trade” is understood to mean the exchange of goods, services, and intellectual property.¹⁵¹⁸ “Freer trade” is the gradual lowering of trade barriers through negotiation.¹⁵¹⁹ “Fair trade” is the trade within a rules-based system “dedicated to open, fair and undistorted competition.” Thus, “fairer trade” is understood to be trade that is of greater adherence to this system.

The term “reformed” means “changed for the better.”¹⁵²⁰ A “system” is “a form of social, economic, or political organization or practice.”¹⁵²¹ Thus, “trading system” is understood to be the economic organization of trade. G7 members have identified the WTO as the multilateral trading system in need of reform.¹⁵²² For evaluating this commitment, working within a reformed trading system also requires active involvement in said reform. Actions taken should make the WTO more viable and durable. Examples include advancing the effectiveness of the WTO’s monitoring, negotiating and dispute settlement system functions,¹⁵²³ or addressing new issues such as climate change, pandemic response and the digital economy, or existing negotiating issues such as agriculture disciplines on fisheries subsidies, and special and differential treatment for developing and least-developed countries within trade.

¹⁵¹⁴ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 2018 Charlevoix (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 2 January 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

¹⁵¹⁵ G7 Leaders’ Declaration, G7 France (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-of-leaders.html>.

¹⁵¹⁶ Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

¹⁵¹⁷ Championing, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/championing>

¹⁵¹⁸ What we do, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2021. https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/what_we_do_e.htm

¹⁵¹⁹ Principles of the Trading System, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2021. https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact2_e.htm

¹⁵²⁰ Reformed, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/reformed>

¹⁵²¹ System, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/system>

¹⁵²² G7 Trade Ministers’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/trade/211022-communique.html>

¹⁵²³ Climate, pandemic, e-commerce, inclusivity — Public Forum addresses priorities for reform, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news21_e/pf21_29sep21_e.htm

For full compliance, G7 members must take action on all three components of this commitment. G7 members must secure future prosperity by strongly championing free trade, fair trade and trade reform. Strong actions for free trade include actions such as the passing of domestic policy or legal acts, the lowering of tariffs and the signing of free trade agreements, all that reduce trade barriers. Strong actions for fairer trade include actions such as the filing of complaints of unfair trade barriers through the WTO's Appellate Board. Actions for a reformed trading system include actively working through the WTO to champion reforms towards a more viable and durable trading system. Weak actions such as verbal affirmations or attending meetings will be counted as partial compliance.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned if the G7 member takes less than strong action in two or three of the aforementioned pillars.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned to the G7 member if it fails to take any efforts towards championing free, fair or reformed trade, or if it takes partial action with only one aspect of this commitment.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member does not take ANY or takes insufficient actions towards championing freer trade, fairer trade or a reformed trading system.
0	The G7 member has taken some action towards at least two of championing freer trade OR championing fairer trade OR championing a reformed trading system.
+1	The G7 member has taken action towards championing freer trade AND fairer trade AND a reformed trading system.

Compliance Director: Joy Fan

Lead Analyst: Lisa Hub

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

On 11 June 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau welcomed the launch of the UK accession process to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership and agreed to redouble efforts to secure a comprehensive free trade agreement between Canada and the UK.¹⁵²⁴

On 24 June 2021, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade Mary Ng met with Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Kajiyama Hiroshi to discuss further cooperation in the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).¹⁵²⁵

On 7 October 2021, Minister Ng attended an informal meeting of WTO ministers, hosted by Australia. Minister Ng highlighted the importance of WTO reform and concluding the Joint Statement Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation during the meeting.¹⁵²⁶

¹⁵²⁴ Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Prime Minister Boris Johnson of the United Kingdom, Prime Minister of Canada (Carbis Bay) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/06/11/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-prime-minister-boris-johnson-united>

¹⁵²⁵ Minister Kajiyama Holds Video Conference with the Hon. Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade of Canada, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0624_001.html

¹⁵²⁶ Minister Ng concludes successful meeting on WTO reform in Paris, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/10/minister-ng-concludes-successful-meeting-on-wto-reform-in-paris.html>

On 12 October 2021, Minister Ng attended the G20 Trade and Investment Ministers meeting.¹⁵²⁷ During the meeting Minister Ng reaffirmed Canada's commitment to international trade and WTO reform. In discussions with South Africa's Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition Ebrahim Patel, Minister Ng affirmed the need to strengthen trade and investment relations and reform the WTO.

On 30 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau met with UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson at the G20 Leaders' Summit in Rome.¹⁵²⁸ He reiterated his support for the UK accession process to the CPTPP and efforts to secure a comprehensive free trade agreement between Canada and the UK.

On 31 October 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau participated in the Summit on Global Supply Chain Resilience hosted by US President Joe Biden on the margins of the G20 Leaders' Summit in Rome.¹⁵²⁹ He noted Canada's efforts to deepen cooperation through the Canada-led Ottawa Group. Additionally, Prime Minister Trudeau highlighted the importance of a predictable, rules-based international trade environment. Finally, Prime Minister Trudeau reaffirmed Canada's commitment to address unfair and non-market trading practices, expressing Canada's desire to further develop free trade relationships.

On 16 November 2021, Canada and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) agreed to proceed with free trade agreement negotiations.¹⁵³⁰ Minister Ng met virtually with ASEAN Economic Ministers at the ASEAN Economic Ministers–Canada Consultations. The ministers agreed to a joint statement highlighting the potential for a free trade agreement to help diversify supply chains, increase trade and investment and reinforce Canada and ASEAN's shared commitment to open markets and rules-based trade.

On 2 December 2021, Canada, alongside over 60 other WTO members, adopted a declaration on the conclusion of negotiations on services domestic regulation.¹⁵³¹ The declaration aims to reduce barriers in services trade. The regulation marks the “the first new set of services rules agreed in over a quarter of a century.”¹⁵³²

On 15 December 2021, Minister Ng met with the United Kingdom's Secretary of State for International Trade Anne-Marie Trevelyan.¹⁵³³ They discussed matters of WTO reform and other trade issues. Minister Ng announced that Canada “has tabled its notice of intent to enter into negotiations toward a Canada-United Kingdom Free Trade Agreement” and reaffirmed Canada's commitment to working with the UK for their accession to the CPTPP.

¹⁵²⁷ Minister Ng meets with international counterparts at G20 Trade and Investment Ministers meeting, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/10/minister-ng-meets-with-international-counterparts-at-g20-trade-and-investment-ministers-meeting.html>

¹⁵²⁸ Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Prime Minister Boris Johnson of the United Kingdom, Prime Minister of Canada (Rome) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/10/30/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-prime-minister-boris-johnson-united>

¹⁵²⁹ Prime Minister Trudeau participates in Summit on Global Supply Chain Resilience, Prime Minister of Canada (Rome) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/10/31/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-participates-summit-global-supply-chain>

¹⁵³⁰ Canada-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/asean-anase/fta-ale/negotiations-negociations.aspx?lang=eng>

¹⁵³¹ Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/jsdomreg_e.htm#participation

¹⁵³² Negotiations on services domestic regulation conclude successfully in Geneva, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news21_e/jssdr_02dec21_e.htm

¹⁵³³ Minister Ng speaks with United Kingdom's Secretary of State for International Trade Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/12/minister-ng-speaks-with-united-kingdoms-secretary-of-state-for-international-trade-anne-marie-trevelyan.html>

On 17 December 2021, Deputy Minister of International Trade John Hannaford and Japan's Senior Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki Hiroshi chaired the 31st Meeting of Japan-Canada Joint Economic Committee. They released a joint press release reaffirming their commitment to WTO reform.¹⁵³⁴

On 22 December 2021, Prime Minister Trudeau spoke with Chile's President-elect Gabriel Boric on working together on shared priorities, such as further advancing Canada-Chile trade and investment relations.¹⁵³⁵ They recognized the importance of like-minded, progressive countries working together to address global challenges, as well as the opportunity to deepen bilateral cooperation.

On 10 January 2022, Minister Ng and Vietnam's Minister of Industry and Trade Nguyen Hong Dien witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding to establish a joint economic committee between the two countries. The memorandum will provide a platform for dialogue for further economic cooperation.¹⁵³⁶

On 17 January 2022, Minister Ng met with Korean Trade Minister Han-Koo Yeo. They discussed bilateral trade and cooperation and committed to continue working on WTO reform.¹⁵³⁷

On 19 January 2022, Minister Ng met with European Commission Executive Vice-President and European Union Commissioner for Trade Valdis Dombrovski. They discussed trade and WTO reform and "committed to further strengthen bilateral commercial relations, including the full implementation of the Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement."¹⁵³⁸

On 20 January 2022, Minister Ng hosted an Ottawa Group meeting virtually to advance work on WTO reform. The group agreed to "intensify its engagement with other members to restore a fully functioning WTO dispute-settlement system."¹⁵³⁹

On 21 January 2022, Minister Ng attended a virtual ministerial meeting of the WTO to discuss various issues including trade and WTO reform. She also reiterated the Ottawa Group's commitment to WTO reform and importance of reaching a resolution to the WTO Appellate Body impasse.¹⁵⁴⁰

Canada has fully complied with the commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. Canada has negotiated free trade agreements, supported the UK with its entry into the CPTPP and participated in updating WTO rules for services trade.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jesslene Lee

¹⁵³⁴ The 31st Meeting of the Japan-Canada Joint Economic Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003073.html

¹⁵³⁵ Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks with President-elect Gabriel Boric of Chile, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 22 December 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2021/12/22/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-speaks-president-elect-gabriel-boric-chile>

¹⁵³⁶ Minister Ng establishes Canada-Vietnam Joint Economic Committee, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 10 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/01/minister-ng-establishes-canada-vietnam-joint-economic-committee.html>

¹⁵³⁷ Minister Ng speaks with South Korean Trade Minister Han-koo Yeo, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 17 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/01/minister-ng-speaks-with-south-korean-trade-minister-han-koo-yeo.html>

¹⁵³⁸ Minister Ng speaks with European Commission Executive Vice-President and European Union Commissioner for Trade, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 19 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/01/minister-ng-speaks-with-european-commission-executive-vice-president-and-european-union-commissioner-for-trade.html>

¹⁵³⁹ Minister Ng hosts first Ottawa Group meeting of 2022, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/01/minister-ng-hosts-first-ottawa-group-meeting-of-2022.html>

¹⁵⁴⁰ Minister Ng discusses WTO reform at WTO ministerial meeting, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/01/minister-ng-discusses-wto-reform-at-wto-ministerial-meeting.html>

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

On 6 September 2021, President Emmanuel Macron released a joint statement with Chilean President Sebastián Piñera that promoted the acceleration of a new association agreement between France, the European Union, and Chile.¹⁵⁴¹ The leaders also advocated for stronger economic ties between France and Chile.

On 15 September 2021, President Macron released a joint statement with Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan that reaffirmed their commitment to increasing economic cooperation between the two countries.¹⁵⁴² The leaders announced the creation of a French-United Arab Emirates Business Council which will help further revive economic exchanges between France and the United Arab Emirates.

On 12 October 2021, Minister Delegate for Foreign Trade and Economic Attractiveness Franck Riester attended the G20 trade ministers meeting in Sorrento.¹⁵⁴³ Issues discussed included WTO reform, integrating sustainable development into trade policies, and trade in relation to COVID-19.

On 21 October 2021, Minister Riester attended the G7 Trade Ministers' meeting in London.¹⁵⁴⁴ He advocated for creating stronger and fairer supply chains in addition to a more sustainable global trade network.

On 26 November 2021, President Macron and Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi signed an enhanced cooperation treaty to further consolidate the commercial, diplomatic, political and cultural ties between France and Italy.¹⁵⁴⁵ The aim of this agreement is to support and accelerate European integration processes through several bilateral initiatives.

On 2 December 2021, France, alongside over 60 other members of the World Trade Organization (WTO), adopted a declaration on the conclusion of negotiations on services domestic regulation.¹⁵⁴⁶ The aim is to reduce barriers in services trade. The regulation marks the “the first new set of services rules agreed in over a quarter of a century.”

France has partially complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. France has taken action to champion freer trade by releasing joint statements with current trade partners that reaffirm the principles of free trade. Additionally, France has

¹⁵⁴¹ President Piñera meets with French President Emmanuel Macron, Government of Chile (Santiago) 6 September 2021. Access Date: 28 November 2021. <https://www.gob.cl/en/news/president-pinera-meets-french-president-emmanuel-macron>

¹⁵⁴² France/ United Arab Emirates Joint Statement, Official Residence of the President of the French Republic (Paris) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2021/09/15/france-united-arab-emirates-joint-statement>

¹⁵⁴³ G20 – Participation of Franck Riester in the trade ministers meeting (Sorrento, 12 October 2021), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris), 12 October 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/g20-participation-of-franck-riester-in-the-trade-ministers-meeting-sorrento-12>

¹⁵⁴⁴ G7 - Franck Riester attending trade ministers' meeting, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 21 October 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/g7-participation-de-franck-riester-a-la-reunion-des-ministres-du-commerce>

¹⁵⁴⁵ Joint press statements by PM Draghi and President Macron, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 26 November 2021. Access Date: 26 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/joint-press-statements-pm-draghi-and-president-macron/18669>

¹⁵⁴⁶ Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/jsdomreg_e.htm#participation

participated in adopting new rules for the WTO. However, France has failed to take strong action regarding fair trade.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Chiara Barsanti

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

On 22 October 2021, Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Peter Altmaier attended the G7 trade ministers' meeting in London. They discussed current trade policy issues and reform of the World Trade Organization (WTO).¹⁵⁴⁷

On 11 November 2021, Minister Altmaier met with EU trade ministers in Brussels to discuss the modernization of the WTO. Minister Altmaier commented that the WTO needs to fit the 21st century which will “require modern trade rules and a modern institution.”¹⁵⁴⁸

On 30 June 2021, Ambassador of the WTO Bettina Waldmann signed a memorandum of understanding.¹⁵⁴⁹ Germany pledged EUR150,000 to help developing and least-developed countries participate more actively in agricultural trade.

On 2 December 2021, Germany, alongside over 60 other WTO members, adopted a declaration on the conclusion of negotiations on services domestic regulation.¹⁵⁵⁰ The aim is to reduce barriers in services trade. The regulation marks the “the first new set of services rules agreed in over a quarter of a century.”¹⁵⁵¹

On 10 December 2021, it was announced that the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development contributed EUR2.7 million to the Standards and Trade Development Facility for 2021 to 2024 to support developing and least-developed countries meet international standards for trade. Ambassador Waldmann stated that “the STDF is a very useful tool to facilitate the integration of such countries into international trade.”¹⁵⁵²

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. Germany has taken strong action to champion fairer trade by providing financial support for programs promoting fair trade. Additionally, Germany has participated in updating the WTO. However, Germany has failed to take strong action towards championing freer trade.

¹⁵⁴⁷ Economic Affairs Minister Altmaier attends G7 trade ministers' meeting in London, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/10/20211022-economic-affairs-minister-altmaier-attends-g7-trade-ministers-meeting-in-london.html>

¹⁵⁴⁸ Minister Altmaier attends meeting of EU trade ministers in Brussels, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 11 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/11/20211111-minister-altmaier-attends-meeting-of-eu-trade-ministers-in-brussels.html>

¹⁵⁴⁹ Germany pledges EUR 150,000 to help developing countries meet farm trade standards, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres21_e/pr882_e.htm

¹⁵⁵⁰ Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/jsdomreg_e.htm#participation

¹⁵⁵¹ Negotiations on services domestic regulation conclude successfully in Geneva, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news21_e/jssdr_02dec21_e.htm

¹⁵⁵² Germany gives CHF 2.8 million to help developing countries meet SPS standards, combat COVID-19, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 10 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres21_e/pr894_e.htm

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Kiara Wei

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

On 11 June 2021, Deputy Minister Benedetto Della Vedova met with New Zealand Ambassador Anthony Simpson. Discussions included negotiations regarding the EU-New Zealand free trade agreement.¹⁵⁵³

On 15 June 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi issued a statement in support of the EU-US agreement to suspend trade duties.¹⁵⁵⁴ He stated that the agreement “is another step towards a return to full cooperation in multilateral fora, which will benefit the entire transatlantic community.”

On 9 July 2021, Minister of Foreign affairs and International Cooperation Luigi Di Maio co-chaired the Italy-India Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation. Minister Di Maio reiterated Italy’s support for reviving negotiations on a free trade agreement.¹⁵⁵⁵

On 8 October 2021, Prime Minister Draghi gave a speech at the B20 Summit, emphasizing Italy’s aim to “preserve and strengthen the effective rule-based multilateral trading system within the World Trade Organization” and to keep an “open, fair and transparent trade environment.”¹⁵⁵⁶

On 13 October 2021, Minister Di Maio met with the UK’s International Trade Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan following the G20 summit and announced the start of discussions on a new export and investment partnership aimed at boosting trade between the two countries.¹⁵⁵⁷

On 18 October 2021, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Manlio Di Stefano met with Sweden’s Minister of Foreign Trade and Nordic Affairs Anna Hallberg. They discussed issues including reform of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the EU’s orientation on negotiations with third countries on free trade agreements, amongst other trade issues.¹⁵⁵⁸

¹⁵⁵³ Deputy Minister Della Vedova signs Italy-New Zealand agreement on air services, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022.

https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/06/della-vedova-firma-l-accordo-italia-nuova-zelanda-sui-servizi-aerei-2/

¹⁵⁵⁴ PM Draghi’s Statement on the EU-US agreement, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 30 November 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/pm-draghi-s-statement-eu-us-agreement/17717>

¹⁵⁵⁵ Italy-India Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/07/nota-farnesina-commissione-mista-italia-india-2/

¹⁵⁵⁶ PM Draghi’s Speech at the B20 Summit, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 8 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/prime-minister-draghi-s-speech-b20-summit/18171>

¹⁵⁵⁷ UK and Italy Announce New Dialogue to Boost Exports and Investment, Department for International Trade (London) 13 October 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-italy-announce-new-dialogue-to-boost-exports-and-investment>

¹⁵⁵⁸ Deputy Minister Di Stefano receives at the Foreign Ministry the Minister of Foreign Trade and Nordic Affairs of Sweden, Anna Hallberg, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 18 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/sottosegretario-di-stefano-riceve-in-farnesina-la-ministra-del-commercio-estero-e-degli-affari-nordici-di-svezia-anna-hallberg-2/

On 22 October 2021, G7 Trade Ministers released a joint communique that outlined their commitment to WTO reform, advancing free and fair trade, amongst other issues.¹⁵⁵⁹ Ministers committed to inclusive and action-orientated WTO reform to build a more resilient trade environment.

On 31 October 2021, Prime Minister Draghi issued a statement to express his satisfaction with the agreement reached between the EU and US regarding steel and aluminum tariffs.¹⁵⁶⁰ He stated that the agreement “confirms the [...] gradual overcoming of the protectionism of recent years.”

On 26 November 2021, Prime Minister Draghi and French President Emmanuel Macron signed an enhanced cooperation treaty to further consolidate the diplomatic, commercial, political and cultural ties between Italy and France.¹⁵⁶¹ The aim of this agreement is to support and accelerate European integration processes through several bilateral initiatives.

On 2 December 2021, Italy, alongside over 60 other WTO members, adopted a declaration on the conclusion of negotiations on services domestic regulation.¹⁵⁶² The aim is to reduce barriers in services trade. The regulation marks the “the first new set of services rules agreed in over a quarter of a century.”¹⁵⁶³

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. Italy has taken preliminary action to championing freer and fairer trade by stating support, participating in discussions and signing a treaty to reassert Italy’s commitment. Additionally, Italy has engaged in bilateral and multilateral discussions concerning WTO reform.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Brinda Batra

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

On 24 June 2021, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Kajiyama Hiroshi met with Canadian Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade Mary Ng to discuss further cooperation in the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).¹⁵⁶⁴

¹⁵⁵⁹ The Joint Communiqué issued by the G7 countries at the G7 Trade Track on 22 October 2021, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022.

https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/10/the-joint-communiqué-issued-by-the-g7-countries-at-the-g7-trade-track-on-22-october-2021-2/

¹⁵⁶⁰ PM Draghi: Great Satisfaction Regarding the Agreement Reached by the EU and US on Steel and Aluminum Tariffs, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021.

<https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/pm-draghi-great-satisfaction-regarding-agreement-reached-eu-and-us-steel-and-aluminium>

¹⁵⁶¹ Joint press statements by PM Draghi and President Macron, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 26 November 2021. Access Date: 26 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/joint-press-statements-pm-draghi-and-president-macron/18669>

¹⁵⁶² Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/jsdomreg_e.htm#participation

¹⁵⁶³ Negotiations on services domestic regulation conclude successfully in Geneva, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news21_e/jssdr_02dec21_e.htm

¹⁵⁶⁴ Minister Kajiyama Holds Video Conference with the Hon. Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade of Canada, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0624_001.html

On 15 July 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs Motegi Toshimitsu met with Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Dan Tehan. They agreed to continue to work on enhancing multilateral free trade systems such as the WTO.¹⁵⁶⁵

On 12 October 2021, Vice Minister for International Affairs Naoshi Hirose attended the G20 Trade Investment Ministerial Meeting in Sorrento.¹⁵⁶⁶ He initiated discussions to strengthen disciplines on industrial subsidies and state-owned enterprises.

On 22 October 2021, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Koichi Hagiuda met with G7 trade ministers. He raised issues regarding market-distorting measures and digital trade.¹⁵⁶⁷

On 9 November 2021, Minister Hagiuda met with Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong. The ministers reaffirmed their commitment to deepening cooperation towards building a free and fair economic order through the CPTPP and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership.¹⁵⁶⁸

On 10 November 2021, the WTO announced that the government of Japan contributed CHF125,000 in 2021 to the WTO Fisheries Subsidies Fund for least-developed countries (LDCs).¹⁵⁶⁹ The subsidization will assist LDCs to cover the travel expenses of their officials, so that they are able to take part in negotiations regarding fishing subsidies.

On 15 November 2021, Minister Hagiuda met with United States Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo to resolve the issue of additional tariffs on Japanese steel and aluminum products.¹⁵⁷⁰ They established the US-Japan Commercial and Industrial Partnership to strengthen both economies while maintaining a free and fair economic order.

On 17 November 2021, Minister Hagiuda held a meeting with United States Trade Representative Ambassador Katherine Tai to resolve the issue of additional tariffs on Japanese steel and aluminum products.¹⁵⁷¹ Additionally, they committed to addressing market-distorting measures in the Indo-Pacific region.

On 18 November 2021, Minister Hagiuda held an online meeting with Executive Vice President of the European Commission Valois Dombrovskis to promote cooperation between the European Union and Japan.¹⁵⁷²

¹⁵⁶⁵ Meeting between Foreign Minister MOTEGI and Hon. Dan Tehan MP, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment of Australia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000208.html

¹⁵⁶⁶ G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 13 October 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1013_001.html

¹⁵⁶⁷ Minister Hagiuda and State Minister Ishii attend G7 Trade Ministers Meeting, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 22 October 2021. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1022_005.html

¹⁵⁶⁸ Minister Hagiuda Holds Video Conference with H.E. Mr. Gan Kim Yong, Singaporean Minister for Trade and Industry, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1109_003.html

¹⁵⁶⁹ Japan gives CHF 125,000 to help LDCs participate in fisheries subsidies discussions, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres21_e/pr891_e.htm

¹⁵⁷⁰ Minister Hagiuda Holds a Meeting with H.E. Ms. Gina M. Raimondo, United States Secretary of Commerce, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021.

¹⁵⁷¹ Minister Hagiuda Holds a Meeting with H.E. Ambassador Katherine Tai, United States Trade Representative, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1117_002.html

¹⁵⁷² Minister Hagiuda Holds Video Conference with H.E. Mr. Valdis Dombrovskis, Executive Vice President of the European Commission for an Economy that Works for People and European Commissioner for Trade, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1118_002.html

On 2 December 2021, Japan, alongside over 60 other WTO members, adopted a declaration on the conclusion of negotiations on services domestic regulation.¹⁵⁷³ The aim is to reduce barriers in services trade. The regulation marks the “the first new set of services rules agreed in over a quarter of a century.”¹⁵⁷⁴

On 6 December 2021, Minister Hagiuda met with United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai and Executive Vice President of the European Commission Valdis Dombrovskis. Minister Hagiuda stated that Japan is committed to “working closely with the US and EU toward reforming the WTO.”¹⁵⁷⁵

On 7 December 2021, Minister for Foreign Affairs Hayashi Yoshimasa spoke with Brazil’s Minister of Foreign Affairs Carlos França. They agreed to continue to lead discussions on WTO reform.¹⁵⁷⁶

On 14 December 2021, Japan, Australia and Singapore released the WTO Joint Statement Initiative on E-commerce, providing an update on the progress of negotiations. Japan is one of the co-conveners of the initiative.¹⁵⁷⁷

On 17 December 2021, Senior Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki Hiroshi and Canadian Deputy Minister of International Trade John Hannaford chaired the 31st Meeting of Japan-Canada Joint Economic Committee. They released a joint press release reaffirming their commitment to WTO reform.¹⁵⁷⁸

On 21 January 2022, Minister Yoshimasa, Minister Koichi and State Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Takebe Arata attended the informal ministerial meeting virtually and discussed WTO reform.¹⁵⁷⁹

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. Japan has taken action to champion freer and fairer trade by actively resolving trade conflicts and engaging in bilateral discussions. Additionally, Japan has taken steps towards creating a reformed trading system by adopting a declaration on WTO reform.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kiara Wei

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

On 15 June 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Secretary of State for International Trade Elizabeth Truss signed a free trade agreement with Australia.¹⁵⁸⁰ The deal eliminated tariffs on all UK goods and

¹⁵⁷³ Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/jssdomreg_e.htm#participation

¹⁵⁷⁴ Negotiations on services domestic regulation conclude successfully in Geneva, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news21_e/jssdr_02dec21_e.htm

¹⁵⁷⁵ METI Minister Hagiuda Attends Trilateral Meeting of Trade Ministers - Joint Statement Released, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1130_001.html

¹⁵⁷⁶ Japan-Brazil Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000286.html

¹⁵⁷⁷ Issuance of the WTO Joint Statement Initiative on E-commerce Statement by Ministers of Japan, Australia and Singapore (Statement by Foreign Minister HAYASHI Yoshimasa), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003070.html

¹⁵⁷⁸ The 31st Meeting of the Japan-Canada Joint Economic Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003073.html

¹⁵⁷⁹ Foreign Minister Hayashi’s attendance at the WTO Informal Ministerial Meeting hosted by Switzerland, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 21 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000249.html

marked the end to quota and tariff restrictions placed on Australian agricultural goods under EU guidelines. British farmers will be protected by a cap on tariff-free imports for the next 15 years to safeguard domestic industries. The trade agreement will strengthen the relationship between the UK and Australia and their commitment to free trade practices.

On 17 June 2021, Secretary Truss signed a free trade agreement with the US.¹⁵⁸¹ The agreement ends the historic 17-year dispute that levied retaliatory tariffs on both countries' products. The suspension will ensure that restrictions on the UK's exports to the US, valuing GBP550 million, will be lifted for the next five years. The representatives also agreed to collaborate on eliminating unfair trade practices by non-market forces.

On 21 June 2021, Secretary Truss announced the beginning of negotiations with members of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) for a free trade deal.¹⁵⁸² Extending membership to the UK would lower tariffs on principal British exports like cars, whiskey and produce, which will boost employment in those sectors. By joining, the UK would also be agreeing to the CPTPP's strong guidelines against unfair trade practices like discrimination against private investors and favoring state-owned enterprise.

On 28 June 2021, Secretary Truss met by video call with Singapore's Minister in charge of Trade Relations S. Iswaran to begin negotiations on the Digital Economy Agreement (DEA).¹⁵⁸³ The DEA would remove barriers to digital trade, ensure companies of the respective countries can trade more efficiently, and allow the UK and Singapore exporters to extend into high-tech markets. Discussions focused on securing free and trusted cross-border data flows whilst maintaining a high standard of data protection.

On 8 July 2021, Minister for International Trade Ranil Jawawardena signed a free trade agreement with Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.¹⁵⁸⁴ The agreement lowers import tariffs on some seafood products for the UK and will allow high-skilled British professionals to enter Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein for work purposes.

On 21 July 2021, the Board of Trade published a report demonstrating how free and fair-trade practices can aid in the international transition to a low-carbon economy.¹⁵⁸⁵ The report urged against green protectionism, and it recommended the UK promote environmentally clean exports overseas and attract foreign investment to develop a greener industrial base in the UK. Secretary Truss commented, "the UK is a leader in green exports and this report shows how free trade, free markets, and free enterprise can be leveraged to counteract green protectionist policies that hold back the global transition to a low-carbon economy."

On 2 September 2021, Secretary of State for Environment and Rural Affairs George Eustice and Secretary Truss oversaw the opening of Mexico's market for British pork imports, marking a further reduction in trade

¹⁵⁸⁰ UK agrees historic trade deal with Australia, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 18 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-agrees-historic-trade-deal-with-australia>

¹⁵⁸¹ Government reaches historic deal on US tariff dispute, Department for International Trade (London) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 18 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-reaches-historic-deal-on-us-tariff-dispute>

¹⁵⁸² Britain launches negotiations with £9 trillion Pacific free trade area, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 18 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-launches-negotiations-with-9-trillion-pacific-free-trade-area>

¹⁵⁸³ UK and Singapore start negotiations on the Digital Trade Agreement, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 18 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-singapore-start-negotiations-on-digital-trade-agreement>

¹⁵⁸⁴ UK signs free trade deal with Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 8 July 2021. Access Date: 18 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/united-kingdom-signs-free-trade-deal-with-norway-iceland-and-liechtenstein>

¹⁵⁸⁵ New trade report argues UK should reject 'green protectionism' and harness free market to address climate crisis, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 21 July 2021. Access Date: 19 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-trade-report-argues-uk-should-reject-green-protectionism-and-harness-free-market-to-address-climate-crisis>

barriers between Mexico and the UK.¹⁵⁸⁶ The countries also committed to begin negotiating a new trade deal in the subsequent year which will see greater reductions in tariff and quota restrictions.

On 13 September 2021, Secretary Truss reaffirmed the UK's commitment to free trade in a press release.¹⁵⁸⁷ She noted that “the path to economic revival does not lie in retreating and re-entrenching but in free trade and free enterprise” arguing that “British employers can only benefit from free trade by selling their products, innovation, capital, and ideas overseas.”

On 13 September 2021, Secretary Truss met with India's Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal to discuss the details for a UK-India free trade agreement. They agreed to continue negotiations on the matter.¹⁵⁸⁸

On 15 September 2021, the first consultation between the economic ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the UK was held. Secretary Truss co-chaired the consultation. They discussed topics on trade and investment including reforming the World Trade Organization.¹⁵⁸⁹

On 15 September 2021, Minister Jayawardena met with Uruguay's Foreign Minister Francisco Bustillo. They discussed strengthening bilateral trade and agreed to strengthen ties by formally agreeing to establish the United Kingdom-Uruguay Trade Dialogue.¹⁵⁹⁰

On 20 October 2021, Prime Minister Johnson and Secretary of State for International Trade Anne-Marie Trevelyan signed a free trade agreement with New Zealand.¹⁵⁹¹ The agreement removes tariffs on British products such as clothing and machinery. Several high-quality New Zealand goods also became available for British markets at a reduced cost.

On 22 October 2021, Secretary Trevelyan joined G7 Trade Ministers to advocate for open digital markets free from digital protectionism in addition to increasing transparency and fairness in the digital and telecommunications markets.¹⁵⁹² Ministers supported a prohibition of duties on electronic transmissions in accordance with the WTO Moratorium on Customs Duties on Electronic Transmission.

On 25 October 2021, Minister for Trade Penny Mordaunt released a joint statement with Chile's Minister for Trade Rodrigo Yañez that reaffirmed their commitment to free and fair trade.¹⁵⁹³ They granted the use of digital certificates for exporters to cut down on red tape barriers to reduce burdens on businesses. The UK also became the first European country to gain access to some of Chile's agricultural markets.

¹⁵⁸⁶ Mexican market opens its doors for imports of British pork, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 2 September 2021. Access Date: 19 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mexican-market-opens-its-doors-for-imports-of-british-pork>

¹⁵⁸⁷ Embrace free trade to drive the levelling-up agenda, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 19 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/embrace-free-trade-to-drive-the-levelling-up-agenda>

¹⁵⁸⁸ Liz Truss's meeting with Indian commerce minister Piyush Goyal, Department for International Trade (London) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/liz-truss-meeting-with-indian-commerce-minister-piyush-goyal>

¹⁵⁸⁹ UK-ASEAN Joint media statement, Department for International Trade (London) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-asean-joint-media-statement>

¹⁵⁹⁰ Joint Declaration on United Kingdom – Uruguay Joint Commission, Department for International Trade (London) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-declaration-on-united-kingdom-uruguay-joint-commission>

¹⁵⁹¹ UK agrees historic trade deal with New Zealand, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 19 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-agrees-historic-trade-deal-with-new-zealand>

¹⁵⁹² G7 Trade Ministers' Digital Trade Principles, Press Release, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 19 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/g7-trade-ministers-digital-trade-principles>

¹⁵⁹³ UK-Chile Trade Dialogue Ministerial Joint Statement, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 26 October 2021. Access Date: 19 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/united-kingdom-chile-trade-dialogue-ministerial-joint-statement>

On 11 November 2021, Minister Mordaunt upheld the principles of free and fair trade in her speech to the House of Commons.¹⁵⁹⁴ She noted that “trading superpowers have a special responsibility to practice free trade and fair trade to support the multilateral trading system” and proposed the creation of “the most advanced FTA [Free Trade Agreement] in the world” between the UK and the US.

On 2 December 2021, the UK alongside over 60 other WTO members delivered an agreement on Services Domestic Regulation. The agreement will remove barriers to services trade through cutting red tape surround licensing and qualifications.¹⁵⁹⁵

On 9 December 2021, Secretary Trevelyan and Singapore Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations S Iswaran agreed in principle for a digital economy agreement. The agreement will overhaul “outdated trade rules that affect both goods and services exporters.”¹⁵⁹⁶

On 16 December 2021, the UK signed a trade deal with Australia in a virtual ceremony. The free trade agreement lowered tariffs and will help businesses in both countries.¹⁵⁹⁷

On 14 January 2022, the UK and India released a joint statement of the 15th meeting of the India-UK Joint Economic and Trade Committee. They committed to continuing negotiations on a free trade agreement and further discussing other matters such as WTO reform.¹⁵⁹⁸

On 19 January 2022, Secretary Trevelyan, US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo and US Trade Representative Katherine Tai announced the beginning of bilateral trade discussions “to address global steel and aluminium excess capacity.” They agreed to continue discussions to address shared economic challenges in these industries.¹⁵⁹⁹

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. The UK has taken action to champion freer and fairer trade by actively renegotiating trade agreements across a range of sectors. Additionally, the UK has taken steps towards creating a reformed trading system by advancing the WTO’s trade rules.

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

Analyst: Chiara Barsanti

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

¹⁵⁹⁴ Minister Mordaunt Chatham House speech, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 11 November 2021. Access Date: 20 November 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/minister-mordaunt-chatham-house-speech>

¹⁵⁹⁵ UK helps broker groundbreaking WTO agreement set to cut cost of global services trade by £113 billion, Department for International Trade (London) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-helps-broker-groundbreaking-wto-agreement-set-to-cut-cost-of-global-services-trade-by-113-billion>

¹⁵⁹⁶ UK agrees world's most comprehensive digital trade deal with Singapore, Department for International Trade (London) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-agrees-worlds-most-comprehensive-digital-trade-deal-with-singapore>

¹⁵⁹⁷ UK and Australia sign world-class trade deal, Department for International Trade (London) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-australia-sign-world-class-trade-deal>

¹⁵⁹⁸ India-UK Joint Statement on the JETCO, Department for International Trade (London) 14 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/india-uk-joint-statement-on-the-jetco>

¹⁵⁹⁹ UK-US Joint Statement on Addressing Global Steel and Aluminium Excess Capacity, Department for International Trade (London) 19 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-us-joint-statement-on-addressing-global-steel-and-aluminium-excess-capacity>

On 15 June 2021, Trade Representative Katherine Tai met with members of the European Parliament's International Trade Committee. She highlighted how "transatlantic cooperation could help promote a worker-centered trade policy and cooperate to face global challenges." They also discussed the need to work together proactively on reform of the World Trade Organization (WTO).¹⁶⁰⁰

On 29 June 2021, Representative Tai today met virtually with Singapore Minister of Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong to discuss bilateral trade and investment. They agreed to collaborate on areas of shared interest including WTO reform.¹⁶⁰¹

On 1 July 2021, Representative Tai met with Finland's Minister for Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade Ville Skinnari and discussed opportunities of collaboration on a wide range of issues including WTO reform.¹⁶⁰²

On 6 July 2021, Representative Tai met with Canada's Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade Mary Ng. They discussed areas for collaboration including developing an inclusive trade policy and WTO reform.¹⁶⁰³

On 21 July 2021, Representative Tai met with Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Dan Tehan to discuss bilateral trade relations and relating issues, such as WTO reform.¹⁶⁰⁴

On 28 July 2021, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Africa at the National Security Council Dana Banks announced further details of the recently launched Prosper Africa Build Together Campaign.¹⁶⁰⁵ New details include an additional USD80 million funding, as well as discussions on increasing two-way trade and investment between the US and Africa.

On 2 August 2021, Representative Tai and Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo co-hosted the inaugural Industry Trade Advisory Committee (ITAC) meeting.¹⁶⁰⁶ They addressed shared priorities with ITAC members, one of which was to remove trade barriers.

¹⁶⁰⁰ Readout of Ambassador Tai's Meeting with the European Parliament Committee on International Trade, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/june/readout-ambassador-tais-meeting-european-parliament-committee-international-trade>

¹⁶⁰¹ Readout of Ambassador Tai's Virtual Meeting with Singapore Trade and Industry Minister Gan Kim Yong, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/june/readout-ambassador-tais-virtual-meeting-singapore-trade-and-industry-minister-gan-kim-yong>

¹⁶⁰² Readout of Ambassador Tai's Meeting with Finland Minister for Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade Ville Skinnari, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 1 July 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/july/readout-ambassador-tais-meeting-finland-minister-development-cooperation-and-foreign-trade-ville>

¹⁶⁰³ Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with Canada's Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade Mary Ng, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/july/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-canadas-minister-small-business-export-promotion-and>

¹⁶⁰⁴ Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Dan Tehan, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 21 July 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/july/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-australian-minister-trade-tourism-and-investment-dan-tehan>

¹⁶⁰⁵ Digital Press Briefing on U.S.-Africa Trade and Investment through Prosper Africa, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/digital-press-briefing-on-u-s-africa-trade-and-investment-through-prosper-africa>

¹⁶⁰⁶ Readout of the Inaugural Industry Trade Advisory Committee Meeting, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 2 August 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/08/readout-inaugural-industry-trade-advisory-committee-meeting>

On 6 August 2021, the US and Uruguay concluded the ninth Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA). Both agreed to “review the existing TIFA and its protocols and to develop new instruments to reflect up-to-date trade rules that support competitiveness and economic recovery.”¹⁶⁰⁷

On 18 August 2021, the WTO announced that the US had contributed USD600,000 in 2021 to the WTO’s Global Trust Fund.¹⁶⁰⁸ The donation aims to help developing countries play a more prominent role in global trade negotiations through financing training and capacity-building activities for government officials.

On 13 September 2021, Representative Tai met with United Arab Emirates Minister of Economy Abdulla Bin Touq Al-Marri and Minister of State for Foreign Trade Thani bin Ahmed Al-Zeyoudi. Ambassador Tai reiterated the US’ support for WTO reforms, such as “adjusting the institution’s approach to special and differential treatment” and requested support from the UAE.¹⁶⁰⁹

On 15 September 2021, the US released a joint media statement with the countries in attendance at the ninth East Asia Summit Economic Ministers’ Meeting. The meeting reaffirmed its commitment to the free and fair multilateral trading system centered on the WTO and the need for WTO reform.¹⁶¹⁰

On 20 September 2021, the Department of Commerce modified regulations regarding antidumping and countervailing duty practices.¹⁶¹¹ Secretary Raimondo stated that the modifications aim to safeguard stakeholders in the US economy from actions that undermine free and fair trade.

On 28 September 2021, Secretary Antony Blinken’s attended the US-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC) inaugural meeting.¹⁶¹² The meeting highlights a focus on deepening transatlantic trade and investment, with additional mentions of tackling unfair trade practices around the world. A press release from the Department of Commerce the following day further reinforces the TTC’s objective of avoiding new and unnecessary barriers to trade of new technologies.¹⁶¹³

On 28 September 2021, Representative Tai met with European Commission Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis. They discussed bilateral and multilateral issues, including WTO reform.¹⁶¹⁴

¹⁶⁰⁷ Joint Statement of the United States and Uruguay — Trade and Investment Council, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/august/joint-statement-united-states-and-uruguay-trade-and-investment-council>

¹⁶⁰⁸ United States gives USD 600,000 to boost negotiating capacities in developing countries, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres21_e/pr885_e.htm

¹⁶⁰⁹ Readout Of Ambassador Katherine Tai’s Meeting with United Arab Emirates Minister Of Economy Abdulla Bin Touq Al-Marri And Minister Of State For Foreign Trade Dr. Thani Bin Ahmed Al-Zeyoudi, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/september/readout-ambassador-katherine-tai-meeting-united-arab-emirates-minister-economy-abdulla-bin-touq-al>

¹⁶¹⁰ Joint Media Statement: The Ninth EAS Economic Ministers’ Meeting, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/september/joint-media-statement-ninth-eas-economic-ministers-meeting>

¹⁶¹¹ Commerce Strengthens Rules to Fight Unfair Trade Practices, International Trade Administration (Washington D.C.) 20 September 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.trade.gov/press-release/commerce-strengthens-rules-fight-unfair-trade-practices>

¹⁶¹² The United States-European Union Trade and Technology Council, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-european-union-trade-and-technology-council>

¹⁶¹³ U.S.-EU Trade and Technology Council Inaugural Joint Statement, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/09/us-eu-trade-and-technology-council-inaugural-joint-statement>

¹⁶¹⁴ Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai Meeting with European Commission Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/september/readout-ambassador-katherine-tai-meeting-european-commission-executive-vice-president-valdis>

On 7 October 2021, Secretary Raimondo and Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong signed a memorandum of understanding, implementing the US-Singapore Partnership for Growth and Innovation.¹⁶¹⁵ The partnership aims to strengthen trade and investment collaboration between the US and Singapore.

On 18 October 2021, Representative Tai met with Honduras' Secretary for Economic Development, María Antonia Rivera. They committed to strengthening implementation of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement and “optimizing the Agreement’s potential through regional integration, facilitating trade, and capacity building.”¹⁶¹⁶

On 19 October 2021, Secretary Raimondo announced 13 new grants totaling USD3 million to assist targeted projects that promote US exports in international markets to remove, reduce or prevent trade barriers.¹⁶¹⁷

On 22 October 2021, Representative Tai released a statement following the conclusion of the G7 Trade Ministers Meeting. She stated that “the G7 committed to working closely with our allies and like-minded partners towards building truly fair international trade that enables healthy competition and confronts unfair market distorting practices.”¹⁶¹⁸

On 22 October 2021, Representative Tai met with France Minister-Delegate for Foreign Trade Franck Riester at the G7 Trade Ministers Meeting. They discussed the need for WTO reform, including the dispute settlement system.¹⁶¹⁹

On 31 October 2021, the US and the EU took steps to “re-establish historical transatlantic trade flows in steel and aluminium.” The US committed to not apply section 232 duties and allow duty-free importation of steel and aluminium from the EU.¹⁶²⁰

On 17 November 2021, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, Japan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry announced the launch of the US-Japan

¹⁶¹⁵ U.S.-Singapore Partnership for Growth and Innovation: A Joint Statement by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo and Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2021/10/us-singapore-partnership-growth-and-innovation-joint-statement-us>

¹⁶¹⁶ Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai’s Meeting with Honduras’ Secretary for Economic Development María Antonia Rivera, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 18 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/october/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-honduras-secretary-economic-development-maria-antonia>

¹⁶¹⁷ Commerce Secretary Awards 13 Grants to Boost U.S. Exports, Support High Quality Jobs, International Trade Administration (Washington D.C.) 19 October 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.trade.gov/press-release/commerce-secretary-awards-13-grants-boost-us-exports-support-high-quality-jobs>

¹⁶¹⁸ Statement from Ambassador Katherine Tai on the G7 Trade Ministers Meeting, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/october/statement-ambassador-katherine-tai-g7-trade-ministers-meeting>

¹⁶¹⁹ Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai’s Meeting with France Minister-Delegate for Foreign Trade Franck Riester, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/october/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-france-minister-delegate-foreign-trade-franck-riester>

¹⁶²⁰ Joint US-EU Statement on Trade in Steel and Aluminum, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/october/joint-us-eu-statement-trade-steel-and-aluminum>

Partnership on Trade. Ambassador Tai stated that the partnership “will deepen the cooperation between the United States and Japan that has defined our strong bilateral trade relationship.”¹⁶²¹

On 19 November 2021, Representative Tai and Korea’s Minister of Trade Yeo Han-koo released a Joint Statement at the conclusion of the sixth Joint Committee Meeting of the Korea-US Free Trade Agreement (KORUS FTA). They agreed to “initiate new approaches through enhanced channels of communication to effectively address emerging trade-related issues” and discussed the implementation of the KORUS FTA.¹⁶²²

On 23 November 2021, the US and India today released a joint statement at the India-United States Trade Policy Forum. The countries agreed to work together on bilateral trade issues and to relaunch workshops “focused on accelerating implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.”¹⁶²³

On 30 November 2021, Representative Tai met with Japan’s Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hagiuda Koichi and Executive Vice President of the European Commission Valdis Dombrovskis. They agreed to continue their cooperation for trade issues, such as identifying non-market access problems, identifying gaps in enforcement and WTO reform.¹⁶²⁴

On 2 December 2021, the US and over 60 other WTO member announced the successful conclusion of negotiations of the WTO Joint Statement Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation. The rules will “improve the transparency and fairness of processes for obtaining authorizations to provide services by professionals and firms in a wide array of fields.”¹⁶²⁵

On 7 December 2021, Representative Tai met with Austria’s Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs Margarete Schramböck. They discussed the need for WTO reform and highlighted accomplishments such as the launch of the Trade and Technology Council, which will provide a platform to address non-market practices.¹⁶²⁶

¹⁶²¹ United States and Japan Announce The Formation Of The U.S.-Japan Partnership On Trade, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 17 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/november/united-states-and-japan-announce-formation-us-japan-partnership-trade-0>

¹⁶²² Joint Statement by the Trade Ministers of the United States of America and the Republic of Korea on the Occasion of the Sixth Meeting of the Joint Committee of the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/november/joint-statement-trade-ministers-united-states-america-and-republic-korea-occasion-sixth-meeting>

¹⁶²³ Joint Statement from the United States - India Trade Policy Forum, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/november/joint-statement-united-states-india-trade-policy-forum>

¹⁶²⁴ Joint Statement of the Trade Ministers of the United States, Japan, and the European Union After a Trilateral Meeting, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/november/joint-statement-trade-ministers-united-states-japan-and-european-union-after-trilateral-meeting>

¹⁶²⁵ United States Welcomes Successful Conclusion of Negotiation of WTO Joint Statement Initiative On Services Domestic Regulation, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/december/united-states-welcomes-successful-conclusion-negotiation-wto-joint-statement-initiative-services>

¹⁶²⁶ Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai’s Virtual Meeting with Austrian Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs Margarete Schramböck, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/december/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-virtual-meeting-austrian-minister-digital-and-economic-affairs>

On 7 December 2021, Representative Tai met with the UK Secretary of State for International Trade Anne-Marie Trevelyan. They agreed to continue cooperation on a variety of topics, including WTO reform.¹⁶²⁷

On 12 January 2022, Deputy Trade Representative Jayme White today held a virtual meeting with Canada's Deputy Minister of International Trade David Morrison. They emphasized the close relationship between countries and reiterated their commitment "to fully implementing the USMCA and ensuring that trade advances equity and opportunity in North America."¹⁶²⁸

On 19 January 2022, Secretary of Commerce Gina M. Raimondo, Representative Tai and the UK's Secretary of State for International Trade Anne-Marie Trevelyan announced the start of bilateral discussions to address global steel and aluminum excess capacity. The negotiations will include addressing US tariffs on imports from the UK under Section 232 and the UK's retaliatory tariffs on certain US exports to the UK.¹⁶²⁹

On 21 January 2022, Representative Tai attended the virtual informal WTO ministerial gathering and reiterated the US' "deep commitment to the WTO and the urgent need to begin innovative discussions about reforming the institution."¹⁶³⁰

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. The US has taken strong action towards championing freer and fairer trade by participating in multilateral trade discussions, allocating funds towards removing trade barriers and lowering tariffs. Additionally, the US has taken steps towards creating a reformed trading system by adopting a declaration to update the WTO's rules of trade.

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

Analyst: Joseph MuQin Shen

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system.

On 15 June 2021, the EU and the United States agreed to engage in discussions to resolve the Airbus-Boeing trade dispute.¹⁶³¹ The European Parliament's Chair of the Committee on International Trade Bernd Lange welcomed the aircraft subsidy deal suspending tariffs for four months.¹⁶³²

¹⁶²⁷ Readout of Ambassador Tai's Meeting with United Kingdom Secretary of State for International Trade Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022.

<https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2021/december/readout-ambassador-tais-meeting-united-kingdom-secretary-state-international-trade-anne-marie>

¹⁶²⁸ Readout of Ambassador Jayme White's Virtual Meeting with Canada's Deputy Minister of International Trade David Morrison, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 12 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022.

<https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/january/readout-ambassador-jayme-whites-virtual-meeting-canadas-deputy-minister-international-trade-david>

¹⁶²⁹ Joint United States – United Kingdom Statement on Addressing Global Steel and Aluminum Excess Capacity, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 19 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/january/joint-united-states-united-kingdom-statement-addressing-global-steel-and-aluminum-excess-capacity>

¹⁶³⁰ Readout of Ambassador Tai's Virtual Meeting with WTO Ministers, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 19 January 2022. Access Date: 31 January 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/january/readout-ambassador-tais-virtual-meeting-wto-ministers>

¹⁶³¹ EU and US reach deal to end Airbus-Boeing trade dispute, Euronews (Lyon) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.euronews.com/2021/06/15/eu-and-us-close-to-a-deal-to-end-airbus-boeing-trade-dispute>

On 15 June 2021, the EU-US Summit took place in Brussels.¹⁶³³ The summit resulted in three major new trade initiatives, including the creation of a Cooperative Framework for Large Civil Aircraft, engaging in discussions to resolve discussions on measures regarding steel and aluminum by the end of the year, and establishing an EU-US Trade and Technology Council.¹⁶³⁴

On 29 September 2021, the EU-US Trade and Technology Council (TTC) met for the first time.¹⁶³⁵ The TTC is a new forum designed to deepen economic ties, coordinate digital policy, and ensure swift and efficient dispute resolution.¹⁶³⁶ The EU reaffirmed the TTC's objectives to coordinate approaches to key global technology, economic and trade issues and to deepen transatlantic trade and economic relations, basing policies on shared democratic values.¹⁶³⁷

On 30 September 2021, the European Parliament's Chair of the Committee on International Trade Bernd Lange made a statement at the TTC's inaugural meeting.¹⁶³⁸ The EU, together with the US, reaffirmed the TTC's objectives to coordinate approaches to economic and trade issues and to deepen transatlantic trade and economic relations.

On 2 November 2021, the EU reached an agreement with the US regarding steel and aluminum tariffs.¹⁶³⁹ A portion of European steel and aluminum exports will be allowed to enter the US without tariffs under the deal, and the EU will drop its retaliatory tariffs on American goods.

On 18 November 2021, Executive Vice President of the European Commission Valdis Dombrovskis held an online meeting with Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Koichi Hagiuda to promote cooperation between the EU and Japan.¹⁶⁴⁰

On 22 November 2021, the European Parliament's Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection adopted a draft report on tackling non-tariff and non-tax barriers in the EU's single market.¹⁶⁴¹ The draft report highlights the importance of the single market and points to persistent non-tariff barriers – a situation that has deteriorated during the COVID-19 pandemic.

¹⁶³² Trade Committee chair welcomes aircraft subsidy deal: statement, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210615IPR06205/trade-committee-chair-welcomes-aircraft-subsidy-deal-statement>

¹⁶³³ EU leaders meet US Biden in EU-US Summit in Brussels, Euronews (Lyon) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.euronews.com/2021/06/15/eu-s-michel-and-von-der-leyen-greet-biden-at-council-building>

¹⁶³⁴ EU-US Summit, Brussels, 15 June 2021, European Council (Strasbourg) 5 October 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2021/06/15/>

¹⁶³⁵ EU-US Trade and Technology Council inaugural joint statement, European Commission (Brussels) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT_21_4951

¹⁶³⁶ EU and US vow to boost microchip supplies and promote trustworthy AI, Euronews (Lyon) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.euronews.com/2021/09/30/eu-and-us-vow-to-boost-microchip-supplies-and-promote-trustworthy-ai>

¹⁶³⁷ EU-US Trade and Technology Council Inaugural Joint Statement, European Commission (Brussels) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT_21_4951

¹⁶³⁸ EU-US Trade and Technology Council Inaugural Joint Statement, European Commission (Brussels) 29 September 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/STATEMENT_21_4951

¹⁶³⁹ EU and US each agreement to settle rift over Trump-era steel and aluminium tariffs, Euronews (Lyon) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.euronews.com/2021/10/31/eu-and-us-reach-agreement-to-settle-rift-over-trump-era-steel-and-aluminium-tariffs>

¹⁶⁴⁰ Minister Hagiuda Holds Video Conference with H.E. Mr. Valdis Dombrovskis, Executive Vice President of the European Commission for an Economy that Works for People and European Commissioner for Trade, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 13 December 2021. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1118_002.html

¹⁶⁴¹ Tackling non-tariff and non-tax barriers in the Single Market, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/tackling-non-tariff-and-non-tax-barriers/product-details/20211119CAN64241>

On 2 December 2021, the EU, alongside over 60 other members of the World Trade Organization (WTO), adopted a declaration on the conclusion of negotiations on services domestic regulation.¹⁶⁴² The aim is to reduce barriers in services trade. The regulation marks the “the first new set of services rules agreed in over a quarter of a century.”¹⁶⁴³

On 6 December 2021, Vice President Dombrovskis met with Japan’s Minister Hagiuda and United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai. They committed to cooperating on WTO reform.¹⁶⁴⁴

On 8 December 2021, Vice President Dombrovskis announced a new trade instrument that will allow the EU to impose sanctions on foreign governments, companies and individuals who abuse trade and financial ties with the aim of forcing a change in EU policy.¹⁶⁴⁵ Once the final version of the regulation is in place, any EU country will be permitted to ask the European Commission to trigger the mechanism.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to secure future prosperity by championing freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system. The EU has taken strong action towards championing freer and fairer trade by removing tariffs and non-tariff barriers to trade and introducing a new trade dispute mechanism. Additionally, the EU has taken steps towards creating a reformed trading system by participating in updating rules within the WTO.

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

Analyst: Jesslene Lee

¹⁶⁴² Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/jsdomreg_e.htm#participation

¹⁶⁴³ Negotiations on services domestic regulation conclude successfully in Geneva, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news21_e/jssdr_02dec21_e.htm

¹⁶⁴⁴ METI Minister Hagiuda Attends Trilateral Meeting of Trade Ministers - Joint Statement Released, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2022. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/1130_001.html

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