



[www.g7.utoronto.ca](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca)

The G7 Research Group presents the  
**2022 G7 Elmau Summit Final Compliance Report**

28 June 2022 to 17 April 2023

Prepared by  
Keah Sharma and Malhaar Moharir  
and the G7 Research Group

16 May 2023

[www.g7.utoronto.ca](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca) • [g7@utoronto.ca](mailto: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*



G7 Research Group  
University of Toronto  
6 Hoskin Avenue, Toronto Ontario M5S 1H6 Canada  
[g7@utoronto.ca](mailto:g7@utoronto.ca) +1-416-946-8953  
[www.g7.utoronto.ca](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca) [www.g7g20.utoronto.ca](http://www.g7g20.utoronto.ca)

## Contents

Introduction.....	3
Research Team.....	4
Summary.....	6
The Final Compliance Score.....	6
Compliance by Member.....	6
Compliance by Commitment.....	6
The Compliance Gap Between Members.....	6
Future Research and Reports.....	6
Table A: 2022 Priority Commitments Selected for Assessment*.....	7
Table B: 2022 G7 Elmau Final Compliance Scores.....	9
Table C: 2022 G7 Elmau Final Compliance Scores by Member.....	10
Table D: 2022 G7 Elmau Final Compliance Scores by Commitment.....	11
1. Regional Security: Global Effects of the War in Ukraine.....	12
2. Regional Security: Military and Financial Support for Ukraine.....	41
3. Climate Change: Health Sustainability.....	103
4. Climate Change: Decarbonizing the Power Sector.....	120
5. Energy: Securing Supply.....	165
6. Human Rights: The Digital Sphere and Beyond.....	190
7. Democracy: Rules-Based Multilateral Order.....	227
8. Health: Pandemic Preparedness.....	367
9. Environment: Funding and Resources.....	387
10. Food and Agriculture: Resilience.....	433
11. Digital Economy: Empowering Citizens.....	460
12. Gender: Access to Education.....	477
13. Trade: Free Trade.....	499
14. Macroeconomics: Safe, Resilient, Equitable and Rules-Based Growth.....	535
15. Health: Noncommunicable Diseases.....	570
16. Crime and Corruption: Transnational Crime.....	605
17. Labour and Employment: Social Protection.....	624
18. Infrastructure: Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment.....	641
19. Non-proliferation: Non-proliferation Treaty.....	675
20. Terrorism: Cooperation on Extremism.....	715
21. Development: Debt Transparency.....	734

### 13. Trade: Free Trade

“We remain committed to upholding fair and transparent competition in the global economy and strengthening international rules in this regard.”

*Elmau G7 Summit Communiqué*

#### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+1.00 (100%)		

#### Background

On 1 January 1995, the World Trade Organization (WTO) was formed in Geneva, Switzerland, as a successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).<sup>2976</sup> The WTO conducts and facilitates several functions for the purpose of enforcing and furthering the multilateral trading system. Trade as a commitment issue appeared at the very first G6 summit – the 1975 Rambouillet Summit.<sup>2977</sup> Discussions regarding unfair trade practices first appeared at the 1982 Versailles Summit, at which leaders pledged to “rule out the use of [their] exchange rates to gain unfair competitive advantages” and to resist “trade distorting practices.”<sup>2978</sup> WTO’s Final Act, the results of the Uruguay round in 1994 introduced policies to mitigate unfair trade practices including a dispute settlement process.<sup>2979</sup> Specific policies introduced include Safeguards, the Anti-Dumping Agreement, Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, Dispute Settlement Understanding and Trade Policy Review Mechanism among other industry-specific measures.

Most recently, trade has become an especially pressing issue for G7 leaders to address. First, exogenous shocks such as the COVID-19 pandemic caused international trade downturns throughout 2020. The pandemic recovery continues to put pressure on specific sectors and supply chains, resulting in an emphasis on “resilient” and “sustainable” supply chains.<sup>2980</sup> Second, on 15 September 2022, G7 Trade Ministers made a statement addressing the challenges to global trade presented by Russia’s aggression against Ukraine.<sup>2981</sup> They reaffirmed their commitment to reforming the WTO, developing supply chain robustness, and addressing economic coercion.

<sup>2976</sup> Overview, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2022.

[https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/wto\\_dg\\_stat\\_e.html](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/wto_dg_stat_e.html)

<sup>2977</sup> Declaration of Rambouillet, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 November 1975. Access Date: 26 September 2022.

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

<sup>2978</sup> Declaration of the Seven Heads of State and Government and Representatives of the European Communities, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 June 1982. Access Date: 25 September 2022.

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

<sup>2979</sup> WTO Legal Texts, World Trade Organization (Geneva) September 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2022.

[https://www.wto.org/english/docs\\_e/legal\\_e/legal\\_e.htm#a#antidump](https://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/legal_e.htm#a#antidump)

<sup>2980</sup> International Trade During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Big Shifts and Uncertainty, OECD (Paris) 10 March 2022. Access Date: 4 October 2022. <https://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/policy-responses/international-trade-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-big-shifts-and-uncertainty-d1131663/>

<sup>2981</sup> G7 Trade Ministers’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 September 2022. Access Date: 4 October 2022.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/trade/220915-statement.html>

The 2000 Okinawa Summit was the first to establish the goal of an inclusive “global information society and to “facilitate cross-border e-commerce by promoting further liberalization.”<sup>2982</sup>

The 2007 Heiligendamm Summit was the first at which G7 leaders addressed the importance of intellectual property rights to global innovation, committing to greater cooperation on this front.<sup>2983</sup>

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, negotiations were launched for the EU to reach trade agreements with the US, Japan and Canada.<sup>2984</sup> Commitments were also made by leaders, for the first time, to secure a WTO deal that makes cuts to trade bureaucracy.

The 2017 Taormina Summit’s communiqué listed, for the first time, in detail, the types of practices that the G7 consider to be “trade distorting”: “dumping, discriminatory non-tariff barriers, forced technology transfers, subsidies and other support by governments and related institutions that distort markets.”<sup>2985</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders re-committed to trade conclusions from the Hamburg G20 summit.<sup>2986</sup> These included commitments to a rule-based trading system, fight protectionism and to “modernize the WTO to make it more fair.” They also called for the start of trade negotiations with regard to developing international rules to mitigate trade-distorting actions undertaken by state-owned enterprises.

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit commitments were made to “open and fair” world trade as well as the stability of the global economy, to be monitored by Finance Ministers.<sup>2987</sup> The G7, again, committed to overhauling the WTO with regards to intellectual property protection and dispute settling. They also committed to reach an agreement by 2020 in order to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

The 2020 USA Virtual Summit, initially to be held at Camp David, focused on the G7’s response to the COVID-19 crisis.<sup>2988</sup> Trade commitments included supporting global trade and investment, recovering supply chains and maintaining previous actions to facilitate international trade.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, commitments were made to secure future prosperity.<sup>2989</sup> Specifically G7 leaders committed to champion “freer, fairer trade within a reformed trading system,” developing a more resilient global economy and a fairer global tax system. These commitments were made with regard to all frontiers, including cyber space and outer space.

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, leaders committed to “upholding fair and transparent competition in the global economy and strengthening international rules in this regard.”<sup>2990</sup> This commitment can be divided into two

---

<sup>2982</sup> Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2000. Access Date: 25 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm>

<sup>2983</sup> Growth and Responsibility in the Global Economy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 June 2007. Access Date: 4 October 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heilgendamm/g8-2007-economy.html>

<sup>2984</sup> G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 4 October 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communiqué.html>

<sup>2985</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 25 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communiqué.html>

<sup>2986</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqué.html>

<sup>2987</sup> G7 Leaders’ Declaration Biarritz, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 27 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-of-leaders.html>

<sup>2988</sup> 2020 G7 Virtual Summit Final Compliance Report, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2021. Access Date: 27 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2020compliance-final/index.html>

<sup>2989</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 27 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communiqué.html>

<sup>2990</sup> G7 Leaders’ Communiqué – Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 26 September 2022. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/FINAL\\_20220628\\_G7%20Statement%20Elmau%202022.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/FINAL_20220628_G7%20Statement%20Elmau%202022.pdf)

core portions – one upholding fair and transparent competition, and another regarding strengthening rules to advance the former.

First, to “uphold” is understood to mean “to give support to.”<sup>2991</sup>

“Fair competition” refers to adherence to the “rules-based system” by entities (i.e. individuals, organizations, governments) who are conducting global trade.<sup>2992</sup>

“Transparent competition” refers to making trade rules “as clear and public ... as possible,” keeping in mind “many WTO requirements require governments to disclose their policies and practices publicly within the country or by notifying the WTO.”<sup>2993</sup> The intention is to improve predictability and stability in the global economy.

“Rules-based system” refers to at least three broad sets of agreements. First is the collection of basic legal agreements that all WTO members have agreed to be bound by, including but not limited to the GATT, the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), and the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), as well as the related agreements, annexes, and schedules.<sup>2994</sup> Second is the additional WTO plurilaterals, including those on trade in civil aircraft, government procurement, dairy products, and bovine meat; these only apply to countries who have agreed to be bound by these provisions.<sup>2995</sup> Finally, there are agreements conducted by members outside of the WTO that are related to trade, such as preferential trading agreements (PTAs), regional trading agreements, comprehensive economic partnership agreements, and other international trade-related agreements such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). This should not be considered an exhaustive list of agreements and legal text that constitutes the rules-based system.

Combining all the previous elements together, to “uphold” (in the context of “upholding fair and transparent competition in the global economy”) refers to providing support to adherence of the rules-based trade system, and/or the clear and publicly accessible publication or notification of changes to a nation’s trade rules.

“Strengthening” is generally understood to mean “to make or become stronger.”<sup>2996</sup> To “strengthen international rules” (in the context of “fair and transparent competition in the global economy”) is to increase, or to make efforts to increase the depth and/or breadth of international trade rules themselves, and/or the accompanying institutional structures that adjudicate international trade rules (e.g. the Appellate Body, a binding dispute settlement mechanism or consultative process in a newly signed PTA, etc.).

On upholding fair and transparent competition, strong actions may include directly supporting international institutions that facilitate trade, taking domestic or international action on firms or countries that have been deemed as breaking the rules, aligning domestic legislation or regulations to comply with international trade-related agreements, or launching domestic programs to support trade. Weaker actions include, but are not limited to, verbal affirmations regarding fair and transparent competition, participation in meetings on the

---

<sup>2991</sup> Uphold, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2022.

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/uphold>

<sup>2992</sup> Principles of the Trading System, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2022.

[https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/tif\\_e/fact2\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact2_e.htm)

<sup>2993</sup> Principles of the Trading System, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2022.

[https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/tif\\_e/fact2\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact2_e.htm)

<sup>2994</sup> Overview: A Navigational Guide, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2022.

[https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/tif\\_e/agrm1\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/agrm1_e.htm)

<sup>2995</sup> Pluralities: Of Minority Interest, World Trade Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2022.

[https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/tif\\_e/agrm10\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/agrm10_e.htm)

<sup>2996</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2022.

[http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

aforementioned topic, assigning budgetary resources to initiatives related to fair and transparent competition (but not necessarily an implementation of the initiative), etc.

On strengthening international rules, strong actions may include submitting proposals or attending meetings to improve the effectiveness of the WTO's monitoring, negotiating, and dispute settlement mechanism (with a special emphasis on working on clearing the impasse regarding the WTO Appellate Body; ratifying or acceding to legally binding agreements that tackle "WTO-plus" issues (e.g. climate change, digital trade, trade and gender, trade and the environment) or existing issues (e.g. disciplines on fisheries subsidies); or, filing complaints through the WTO dispute settlement process or filing for consultations through an RTA dispute settlement process. Weaker actions that may count towards compliance include verbal affirmations or attendance at meetings where the discussion included improvement to the rules-based trading system.

Actions that undermine the above activities may count as negative compliance, but the final scores will keep in mind the overall set of actions (i.e. actions that counted towards positive compliance and actions that represent a failure to comply) adopted by each G7 member.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that took strong actions to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy OR to strengthen international rules in this regard.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that took some action to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard OR took strong action in one of those two areas.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned if the G7 member made no efforts to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy OR to strengthen international rules in this regard OR took less than strong action in one area.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member made no efforts to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy OR to strengthen international rules in this regard OR took less than strong action in one area.
0	The G7 member took less than strong action to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard OR took strong action in one area.
+1	The G7 member took strong actions to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy AND to strengthen international rules in this regard.

*Compliance Director: Ashton Mathias  
Lead Analyst: Brinda Batra*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard.

On 7 July 2022, Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and Economic Development Mary Ng hosted the United States Trade Representative (USTR) Katherine Tai and Mexico's Secretary of the Economy Tatiana Clouthier Carrillo at the second meeting of the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) Free Trade Commission.<sup>2997</sup> Minister Ng emphasized the importance of CUSMA implementation on advancing rules-based and inclusive trade, among other items. The three countries also discussed efforts in order to improve women's inclusivity within the trade sector.

<sup>2997</sup> Minister Ng concludes successful trilateral meeting of Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement Free Trade Commission, Global Affairs Canada (Vancouver) 8 July 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/07/minister-ng-concludes-successful-trilateral-meeting-of-canada-united-states-mexico-agreement-free-trade-commission.html>

On 8 July 2022, Minister Ng met with USTR Tai and Mexico's Minister Clouthier to discuss free and transparent electronics trade among the countries.<sup>2998</sup> Topics discussed included certain Mexican investment policies that threatened US investment, transparency of biotechnology regulatory processes in Mexico, and the ease at which US electronic payment companies operate in the Mexican economy.

On 1 August 2022, Canada released updated information on its trading partners, stating that it now has 15 free trade agreements that span over 51 countries.<sup>2999</sup> These agreements collectively cover countries that comprise 61 per cent of the world's gross domestic product.

On 2 September 2022, the regulatory reconciliation and cooperation table of Canada held its fifth annual anniversary meeting.<sup>3000</sup> This table was established to amend regulatory barriers within Canada's trade sector. They are currently working towards the implementation of seven reconciliation plans and two cooperation plans in support of the transportation, construction, and health and safety of trade-involved laborers.

On 26 October 2022, Canada and India completed their fourth round of trade negotiations. They are in the process of finalizing an early progress trade agreement.<sup>3001</sup> The finalization of this agreement will lead to the negotiations and implementation of the Canada-India comprehensive economic partnership agreement.

On 1 November 2022, Canada released information on their plans to become a leading nation for international digital trade, including work on implementing policies that will result in it being a world leader in digital trade. Canada's objective is to develop a model Canadian digital trade policy – allowing Canada to digitally trade with a larger number of countries, and will allow companies to increase the “predictability of digital trade rules.”<sup>3002</sup>

On 12 November 2022, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau attended the summit of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) with the goal of strengthening relations with the ASEAN countries.<sup>3003</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau promoted expansion and diversification of trade for the purpose of creating middle-class jobs in Canada and Southeast Asia, investing in the growth of both regions, and strengthening economic resilience. Canada committed to investing CAD40 million to launch the Indo-Pacific Engagement Initiative.

On 24 November 2022, Minister Ng, met with Ecuador's Minister of Production, Foreign Trade, Investments and Fisheries Julio José Prado.<sup>3004</sup> They discussed potential free trade agreements between the two countries. As trade increases between Canada and Ecuador, a free trade agreement will allow for rapid growth and investment opportunities for either country's companies.

---

<sup>2998</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with Canada's Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business, and Economic Development, Mary Ng, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 8 July 2022. Access Date: 28 October 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/july/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-canadas-minister-international-trade-export-promotion>

<sup>2999</sup> State of Trade 2022: The Benefits of Free Trade Agreements, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 1 August 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. <https://www.international.gc.ca/transparency-transparence/state-trade-commerce-international/2022.aspx?lang=eng>

<sup>3000</sup> Regulatory Reconciliation and Cooperation Five-Year Anniversary, Canadian Free Trade Agreement (Ottawa) 2 September 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. <https://www.cfta-alec.ca/regulatory-reconciliation-cooperation/>

<sup>3001</sup> A Free Trade Agreement for Canada and India: Is the Time Finally Right?, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (Vancouver) 27 October 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. <https://www.asiapacific.ca/publication/free-trade-agreement-canada-and-india-time-finally-right>

<sup>3002</sup> Let's Get Digital- Canadian Government Consults on Model Digital Trade Policy, McMillan LLP (Ottawa) 1 November 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://mcmillan.ca/insights/lets-get-digital-canadian-government-consults-on-model-digital-trade-policy/>

<sup>3003</sup> Prime Minister strengthens ties with ASEAN and expands partnerships in the Indo-Pacific, Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau (Ottawa) 13 November 2022. Access Date: 10 December 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2022/11/13/prime-minister-strengthens-ties-asean-and-expands-partnerships-into>

<sup>3004</sup> Minister Ng launches exploratory talks toward free trade agreement between Canada and Ecuador, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 November 2022. Access Date: 23 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/11/minister-ng-launches-exploratory-talks-toward-free-trade-agreement-between-canada-and-ecuador.html>

On 28 November 2022, Canada released its Indo-Pacific Strategy (IPS), which discusses trade negotiations with Southeast Asia, including Indonesia and India.<sup>3005</sup> This strategy includes trade, investment, and supply chain resilience. The IPS will allow Canadian and Indo-Pacific companies to expand their exports and improve investments in both regions, allowing all countries involved to diversify and overcome current supply chain issues. Canada has committed CAD2.2 billion over a five-year period in order to implement the IPS.

On 30 November 2022, USTR Taipei Times and Minister Ng discussed the close trade relationship between the nations and ongoing commitment to multilateral North American trade. They also discussed possible concerns on pending Canadian digital services legislation that could have a distortionary effect on the market.<sup>3006</sup>

On 13 December 2022, Canada committed to transferring CAD 115 million of tariff revenue collected from Russia and Belarus to Ukraine.<sup>3007</sup> Canada further revoked the Most-Favoured-Nation status for Russian and Belarusian imports, which resulted in the application of 35 per cent tariffs on all their goods imported into Canada.

On 6 January 2023, Canada launched a public consultation on a potential free trade agreement with Ecuador.<sup>3008</sup> These consultations are to determine the considerations that the Government should consider if a free trade agreement is to proceed with Ecuador.

On 9 January 2023, during a meeting with Mexican Secretary of Economy Raquel Buenrostro, Minister Ng expressed concerns regarding the treatment of Canadian mining companies in Mexico and the need for transparent processes for mining sector permits.<sup>3009</sup> The Ministers also discussed Mexico's proposed energy and biotechnology reforms, the importance of the trade and gender and trade and Indigenous peoples nexuses and expressed continued support for continued collaboration on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO), including through the Ottawa Group.

On 12 January 2023, Minister Ng met with Moses Kiarie Kuria, Kenya's Cabinet Secretary of Ministry of Trade, Investment and Industry, to discuss the Ottawa Group on WTO Reform, including issues related to dispute settlement, and other initiatives in the lead-up to WTO ministerial meeting.<sup>3010</sup> Minister Ng also highlighted Canada's commitment to growing bilateral commercial ties in areas such as clean technology.

On 19 January 2023, Minister Ng met with UK Secretary of State for International Trade Kemi Badenoch to discuss a variety of shared trade priorities.<sup>3011</sup> The two ministers discussed progress on the Canada-UK Free

---

<sup>3005</sup> Canada Embraces the Indo-Pacific: New Canadian Strategy Expands Opportunities for Two-Way Trade and Investment, McMillan (Toronto) 29 November 2022. Access Date: 23 December 2022. <https://mcmillan.ca/insights/canada-embraces-the-indo-pacific-new-canadian-strategy-expands-opportunities-for-two-way-trade-and-investment/>

<sup>3006</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting With Canada's Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business, and Economic Development, Mary Ng, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 30 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-canadas-minister-international-trade-export-promotion>

<sup>3007</sup> Canada provides Ukraine \$115 million from Russian and Belarusian tariff revenues to repair Kyiv's power grid, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2022/12/canada-provides-ukraine-115-million-from-russian-and-belarusian-tariff-revenues-to-repair-kyivs-power-grid.html>

<sup>3008</sup> Minister Ng launches public consultations on trade negotiations with Ecuador (Ottawa) 6 January 2023. Access Date: 7 March 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/01/minister-ng-launches-public-consultations-on-trade-negotiations-with-ecuador.html>

<sup>3009</sup> Minister Ng meets with Mexico's Secretary of Economy Raquel Buenrostro, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 January 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/01/minister-ng-meets-with-mexicos-secretary-of-economy-raquel-buenrostro.html>

<sup>3010</sup> Minister Ng meets with Kenya's Cabinet Secretary of the Ministry of Trade, Investment and Industry, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 12 January 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/01/minister-ng-meets-with-kenyas-cabinet-secretary-of-the-ministry-of-trade-investment-and-industry.html>

<sup>3011</sup> Minister Ng speaks with United Kingdom's Secretary of State for International Trade Kemi Badenoch, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 19 January 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/01/minister-ng-speaks-with-united-kingdoms-secretary-of-state-for-international-trade-kemi-badenoch.html>



Trade Agreement and on the UK's accession to Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) as well as the importance of collaboration on shared initiatives related to trade and the environment, trade and health, inclusive trade and digital trade. The two ministers also discussed collaborative efforts to strengthen and safeguard the rules-based trading system, including making progress at the Ottawa Group on WTO Reform and with the joint statement initiative on e-commerce.

On 21 January 2023, Minister Ng chaired the first meeting of 2023 of the Ottawa Group on WTO Reform where participants discussed next steps on the implementation of the fisheries subsidies agreement and a possible extension of e-commerce duties moratorium.<sup>3012</sup> Minister Ng also participated in a WTO informal ministerial meeting in Davos to emphasize needed progress on agricultural negotiations and endorsed the Coalition of Trade Ministers on Climate joint statement.

On 24 January 2023, Minister Ng condemned the preliminary decision issued by the US Department of Commerce to maintain duties on softwood lumber imports citing that such duties have been ruled illegal by the WTO.<sup>3013</sup> Minister Ng indicated that if the decision was finalized, Canada would fight these duties using all available avenues, including through dispute settlement procedures at the WTO and under Canada-US-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA).

On 6 February 2023, Global Affairs Canada announced that Minister Ng will lead a Women's Trade Mission to the UK in mid-March in order to promote trade between women-owned businesses in sectors including clean technology and life sciences.<sup>3014</sup>

On 22 February 2023, during a meeting with Gan Kim Yong, Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry, Minister Ng discussed the importance of upholding strong rules-based trade by working together through CPTPP and the Ottawa Group.<sup>3015</sup> Minister Ng also reiterated Canada's interest in joining the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework.

On 9 March 2023, Minister Ng provided an update on the dispute with the US over softwood lumber by stating that Canada is interested in negotiating a new softwood lumber agreement as one of its potential avenues for resolution.<sup>3016</sup> Minister Ng stated the US has blocked and refused to participate in such an agreement.

On 11 March 2023, Canada launched a formal complaint under CUSMA's Rapid Response Labour Mechanism regarding alleged labour violations at a Mexican automotive plant.<sup>3017</sup> Whereas the US has filed seven complaints with respect to Mexican plants under the new rules, this is the first such Canadian complaint.

---

<sup>3012</sup> Minister Ng met with WTO members, hosted meeting of Ottawa Group, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 January 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/01/minister-ng-met-with-wto-members-hosted-meeting-of-ottawa-group.html>

<sup>3013</sup> Statement by Minister Ng on U.S. preliminary duty rates on Canadian softwood lumber, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 24 January 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/01/statement-by-minister-ng-on-us-preliminary-duty-rates-on-canadian-softwood-lumber.html>

<sup>3014</sup> Minister Ng to lead a Women's Trade Mission to the United Kingdom, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 6 February 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/02/minister-ng-to-lead-a-womens-trade-mission-to-the-united-kingdom.html>

<sup>3015</sup> Minister Ng meets with Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 22 February 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/02/minister-ng-meets-with-singapores-minister-for-trade-and-industry.html>

<sup>3016</sup> Minister Ng meets with Canadian softwood lumber industry leaders, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 10 March 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/03/minister-ng-meets-with-canadian-softwood-lumber-industry-leaders.html>

<sup>3017</sup> Canadian government files trade complaint about labour practices at mexican plant, Windsor Star (Ontario) 13 March 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://windsorstar.com/news/local-news/canadian-government-files-trade-complaint-about-labour-practices-at-mexican-plant>

On 14 March 2023, Minister Ng met with UK Secretary Badenoch to discuss progress on the Canada-UK FTA and efforts of the Ottawa Group in advance of MC13.<sup>3018</sup> For the FTA negotiations in particular, the two sides agreed that there should be shared successes on the environment, digital trade, the trade and gender nexus and the trade and Indigenous peoples nexus.

On 15 March 2023, Minister Ng concluded her first Women's Canada Trade Mission to the United Kingdom, where she and Secretary Badenoch discussed the benefits of inclusive trade, trade-related solutions to climate change, progress in advancing WTO reform and next steps in the Canada-UK Critical Minerals Supply Chain Dialogue.<sup>3019</sup>

On 3 April 2023, Canada and India commenced the seventh round of negotiations on their Early Progress Trade Agreement.<sup>3020</sup> Following the finalization of the agreement, India and Canada will take steps to establish a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard. With regards to strengthening international trade rules, Canada has advanced negotiations with the United Kingdom, India, Ukraine, Indonesia, and ASEAN, worked on its digital trade policy and discussed efforts to tackle the trade-gender nexus. Canada has taken some action in the area of upholding fair and transparent competition in the global economy by raising concerns with Mexican biotechnology and energy reforms, filing a trade complaint regarding Mexican labour practices and by threatening to invoke dispute settlement procedures with respect to US softwood lumber duties.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Hania El Sayed*

#### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard.

On 12 June 2022, Minister Delegate for Foreign Trade and Economic Attractiveness Franck Riester participated in the 12th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva.<sup>3021</sup>

On 30 June 2022, the EU and New Zealand entered a trade agreement under the French presidency. The agreement aims to economic opportunities for companies and consumers in both economies.<sup>3022</sup> The deal includes “unprecedented sustainability commitments, including respect of the Paris Climate Agreement and core labour rights, which are enforceable through trade sanctions as a last resort.”

On 15 October 2022, France and other G7 members met to discuss the trade ramifications that may occur due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, as well as the effects that new protectionist trade policies may have on free

---

<sup>3018</sup> Minister Ng meets with United Kingdom's Secretary of State for Business and Trade, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 14 March 2023. Access Date: 21 April 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/03/minister-ng-meets-with-united-kingdoms-secretary-of-state-for-business-and-trade.html>

<sup>3019</sup> Minister Ng concludes successful Women's Canada Trade Mission to United Kingdom, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 15 March 2023. Access Date: 2 April 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/03/minister-ng-concludes-successful-womens-canada-trade-mission-to-united-kingdom.html>

<sup>3020</sup> India-Canada concludes 7th round of talks on Early Progress Trade Agreement, the Hindustan Times (New Delhi) 10 April 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/india-and-canada-conclude-seventh-round-of-talks-towards-early-progress-trade-agreement-epta-101681107505840.html>

<sup>3021</sup> WTO – Participation of Franck Riester in the WTO Ministerial Conference (12-15 Jun. 2022), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 15 June 2022. Access Date: 25 November 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/wto-participation-of-franck-riester-in-the-wto-ministerial-conference-12-15-jun>

<sup>3022</sup> EU – New Zealand Trade Agreement: Unlocking sustainable economic growth, European Commission (Brussels) 30 June 2022. Access Date: 5 March 2023. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_22\\_4158](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_4158)

trade.<sup>3023</sup> The G7 members agreed to reform global trade by restoring the WTO dispute settlement mechanism by 2024. They also discussed a plan to recover global supply chains by broadening trade relationships. G7 members also plan to increase the fairness of international competition within the free trade sector by continuing their advocacy for fair competition conditions.

On 31 October 2022, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty of France contributed EUR 50,000 (approximately CHF 49,000) for 2022 to the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) to help developing and least-developed countries (LDCs) meet international food safety, animal and plant health standards for trade and improve their access to global and regional markets.<sup>3024</sup>

On 30 January 2023, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Catherine Colonna and Minister for the Armed Forces Sebastien Lecornu met with Australia's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Richard Marles and Minister of Foreign Affairs Penny Wong.<sup>3025</sup> According to the joint statement, they agreed to cooperate on responding to coercive economic practices that undermine rules-based international trade, underlined the importance of having a functioning dispute-settlement system by 2024 and agreed the prospective EU-Australia free trade agreement should include ambitious commitments on sustainable development, the environment and labour rights.

On 14 February 2023, Olivier Becht, Minister Delegate for Foreign Trade, Economic Attractiveness and French Nationals Abroad, attached to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, represented France at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Ministerial Meeting on Responsible Business Conduct.<sup>3026</sup> The meeting is to promote more sustainable trade, given that businesses have a special responsibility toward the effects of their activities on society, and specifically human rights, labour law and the environment.

On 28 March 2023, Minister Becht welcomed the agreement between the European Council, Commission and Parliament on the regulation concerning the EU anti-coercion instrument.<sup>3027</sup> Minister Becht mentioned that discussions on the instrument began during the French presidency of the Council of the EU and France thereafter continued to strongly support discussions on measures that would help the EU defend against coercive economic practices from third-party states.

France has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard. France participated in the strengthening of international rules at WTO, and provided aid to the STDF in order to assist LDCs in participating in fair and transparent competition. Additionally, France has demonstrated support for free trade to the fullest extent due to its status as an EU member.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jiarui Bi*

---

<sup>3023</sup> A strategic realignment in trade policy, The Federal Government (Berlin) 15 September 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/g7-world-trade-2126704>

<sup>3024</sup> France gives EUR 50,000 to boost safe food exports from developing countries, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 31 October 2022. Access Date: 25 November 2022. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/pres22\\_e/pr910\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres22_e/pr910_e.htm)

<sup>3025</sup> Joint Statement - Second France-Australia Foreign and Defence Ministerial Consultations, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 30 January 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/australia/news/article/joint-statement-second-france-australia-foreign-and-defence-ministerial>

<sup>3026</sup> OECD- Ministerial Meeting on Responsible Business Conduct, co-chaired by France (February- 14-15, 2023), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 14 February 2023. Access Date: 1 March 2023. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangere-de-la-france/developpement/evenements-et-actualites-sur-le-theme-du-developpement/evenements-et-actualites-sur-le-theme-du-developpement-2023/article/ocde-reunion-ministerielle-sur-la-conduite-responsable-des-entreprises-co>

<sup>3027</sup> Olivier Becht welcomes the adoption of a European instrument to protect against economic coercion, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 28 March 2023. Access Date: 21 April 2023. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/europe/news/article/olivier-becht-welcomes-the-adoption-of-a-european-instrument-to-protect-against>

## Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard.

On 13 September 2022, Economy Minister Robert Habeck stated that Germany will be working toward a new free trade policy which plans to reduce Germany's dependence on Chinese exports such as "raw materials, batteries and semiconductors."<sup>3028</sup> Minister Habeck stated this was, in part, to help Germany get around unfair Chinese protectionist policies. Germany is also taking this step to stand for human rights violations that they have seen and may further see within the Chinese export sector.

On 15 October 2022, G7 members met to discuss the trade ramifications that may occur due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, as well as the effects that new protectionist trade policies may have on free trade.<sup>3029</sup> The G7 members agreed to reform global trade by restoring the World Trade Organization's (WTO) dispute settlement mechanism by 2024. They also discussed a plan to recover global supply chains by broadening trade relationships. Germany and the G7 members also plan to increase the fairness of international competition within the free trade sector by continuing their advocacy for fair competition conditions.

On 4 November 2022, Chancellor Olaf Scholz met with China's President Xi Jinping to work toward the re-establishment of a 50-year diplomatic trade relation between the two countries.<sup>3030</sup> They further discussed global ramifications caused by the Russian-Ukrainian war, such as distribution complications of the supply chain, food, and energy markets. Chancellor Scholz stated they are satisfied with current trade relations with China; however, he wishes to improve German access to Chinese markets. Along with enforcing intellectual property rights to restore more equal and fair free trade. Chancellor Scholz further emphasized wanting to separate economic collaboration from the political objectives pushed by the Chinese governments through their trade relations.

On 13 November 2022, Chancellor Scholz met with Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh to incorporate projects that will advance German-Vietnamese trade relations such as recruitment of low skilled workers and advancement in Vietnamese infrastructure.<sup>3031</sup>

On 14 November 2022, Chancellor Scholz and Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong met to discuss furthering free trade between the two countries through their common interest of prosperity.<sup>3032</sup> The two countries drew up a joint declaration in order to deepen cooperation through bilateral trade. Chancellor Scholz further pledged to strengthen Indo-Pacific trade agreements, stressing the importance of expanding Germany's trade partners to more economies outside of China. He further noted the importance of countries deterring from protectionism and trade restrictions during the current supply chain issues incurred through the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 15 November 2022, at the G20 Bali Summit, the trade focus was to expand relations with a variety of countries as opposed to their current main trade partners.<sup>3033</sup> The goal is to develop free trade agreements with a variety of Asian countries and other continents.

---

<sup>3028</sup> Germany drawing up new China trade policy, vows 'no more naivety', CNBC (New Jersey) 13 September 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.cnn.com/2022/09/14/germany-drawing-up-new-china-trade-policy-vows-no-more-naivety.html>

<sup>3029</sup> A strategic realignment in trade policy, The Federal Government (Berlin) 15 September 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/g7-world-trade-2126704>

<sup>3030</sup> Shared Global Responsibility, The Federal Government (Berlin) 4 November 2022. Access Date: 10 December 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/federal-chancellor-in-china-2140012>

<sup>3031</sup> Strengthening the international order and trade relations, The Federal Government (Berlin) 14 November 2022. Access Date: 10 December 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/scholz-in-southeast-asia-2143510>

<sup>3032</sup> Strengthening the international order and trade relations, The Federal Government (Berlin) 14 November 2022. Access Date: 10 December 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/scholz-in-southeast-asia-2143510>

<sup>3033</sup> The G20 Summit in Bali, German Federal Government (Berlin) 11 November 2022. Access Date: 11 December 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/faq-g20-summit-bali-2142384>

On 1 December 2022, the Bundestag came to a majority vote to continue the Comprehensive and Economic Trade Agreement between the EU and Canada.<sup>3034</sup> This will allow 98 per cent of customs duties to be abolished on traded goods between the countries.

On 14 December 2022, at the first summit between the EU and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Chancellor Scholz pushed for long-term progress in free trade agreements between the EU and ASEAN countries.<sup>3035</sup> The progression of such trade deals will improve collaborative efforts between the countries and increase trade.

On 17 December 2022, Minister Habeck, and the Australian Minister for Trade and Tourism Don Farrell discussed cooperation through hydrogen trade and critical minerals and discussed further possible trade agreements between the EU and Australia.<sup>3036</sup>

On 25 February 2023, Chancellor Scholz and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced their mutual commitment to signing a free trade agreement between India and the European Union.<sup>3037</sup> This will advance Germany's engagement with the Indo-Pacific region and will allow for greater economic opportunity as India's economy continues to grow and become an integral part of the world market.

On 27 March 2023, Germany and the Netherlands held bilateral government consultations where the two nations, inter alia, reaffirmed that free, rules-based and sustainable trade is essential for their prosperity and that the WTO remains the central organization for the rules-based trading system.<sup>3038</sup>

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard. Through verbal statements at the 2022 G7 and G20 summits, orienting its policies away from states that practice anti-competitive behaviour, and working towards implementing trade policies with new countries within Asia and other continents.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Hania El Sayed*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international trade rules in this regard.

On 15 October 2022, G7 members met to discuss the trade ramifications that may occur due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, as well as the effects that new protectionist trade policies may have on free trade.<sup>3039</sup> The G7 members agreed to reform global trade by restoring the World Trade Organization's dispute settlement mechanism by 2024. They also discussed a plan to recover global supply chains by broadening trade

---

<sup>3034</sup> German parliament votes to ratify CETA trade agreement with Canada, Reuters (Toronto) 1 December 2022. Access Date: 17 December 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/markets/german-parliament-votes-ratify-ceta-trade-agreement-with-canada-2022-12-01/>

<sup>3035</sup> EU seeks closer collaboration with ASEAN countries, The Federal Government (Berlin) 14 December 2022. Access Date: 17 December 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/eu-asean-summit-2154274>

<sup>3036</sup> Taking trade and investment with Germany to the next level, Australian Minister for Trade and Tourism (Barton) 17 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://www.trademinister.gov.au/minister/don-farrell/media-release/taking-trade-and-investment-germany-next-level>

<sup>3037</sup> Germany's Scholz committed for Free Trade deal between India, Reuters (New Delhi) 25 February 2023. Access Date: 7 March 2023. <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/germanys-scholz-heads-india-tend-new-friendship-2023-02-24/>

<sup>3038</sup> Joint Statement – German-Dutch Government Consultations, German Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Berlin) 27 March 2023. Access Date: 21 April 2023. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/deutsch-niederlaendische-regierungskonsultationen/2590278>

<sup>3039</sup> A strategic realignment in trade policy, The Federal Government (Berlin) 15 September 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/g7-world-trade-2126704>

relationships. G7 members also plan to increase the fairness of international competition within the free trade sector by continuing their advocacy for fair competition conditions.

On 2 March 2023, President Giorgia Meloni gave a speech at the Raisina Dialogue Conference.<sup>3040</sup> She referenced the goal of fair and sustainable trade.

On 8 March 2023, Minister of Foreign Affairs Antonio Tajani and UK Secretary of State for Trade Kemi Badenoch signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a Strategic Dialogue on Export and Investment Promotion.<sup>3041</sup> The MOU would set up a structured mechanism of cooperation and consultation, focusing on boosting trade in high-potential sectors such as the green economy.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard. Italy has expressed interest in cooperating with other nations in order to strengthen trade cooperation. Additionally, Italy has demonstrated inherent support for free trade to the fullest extent due to its status as an EU member.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jiarui Bi*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard.

On 30 July 2022, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Koichi Hagiuda and Minister for Foreign Affairs Yoshimasa Hayashi met with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo at the Japan-US Economic Policy Consultative Committee.<sup>3042</sup> The ministers recognized that Japan and the United States will continue to be leaders in maintaining a free and open international economic order, using economic power to strengthen supply chains and build an economic order that will be “a compass for the realization of a free and open Indo-Pacific.” Minister Hagiuda and Minister Hayashi expressed Japanese support for, and cooperation with, the US Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF). This was “realizing peace and prosperity through the rules-based economic order.” They agreed with US Secretary Blinken and US Secretary Raimondo that Japan and the United States needed to work together to counter economic coercion and unfair and opaque lending practices. The four ministers concurred to work together to ensure countries follow the international rules on fair and transparent economic and financial practices. Japan and the United States are committed to work together on “countering economic coercion and unfair and opaque lending practices.”

On 23 August 2022, Minister Hagiuda held the fifth meeting of the Japan-Vietnam Joint Committee, where Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Yasutoshi Nishimura and Vietnam’s Minister of Industry and Trade

---

<sup>3040</sup> President Meloni’s speech at the Raisina Dialogue conference, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 2 March 2023. Access Date: 19 April 2023. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-melonis-speech-raisina-dialogue-conference/21957>

<sup>3041</sup> JOINT PRESS RELEASE ITALY – UK Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Policy Dialogue for Export and Investment Promotion, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 8 February 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2023/02/comunicato-congiunto-italia-regno-unito-firma-del-memorandum-of-understanding-sul-dialogo-strategico-per-la-promozione-delle-esportazioni-e-degli-investimenti/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2023/02/comunicato-congiunto-italia-regno-unito-firma-del-memorandum-of-understanding-sul-dialogo-strategico-per-la-promozione-delle-esportazioni-e-degli-investimenti/)

<sup>3042</sup> METI Minister Hagiuda Attends US-Japan Economic Policy Consultative Committee (Economic 2+2) Meeting — Joint Statement Released, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 30 July 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/0730\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/0730_001.html)

Nguyen Hong Dien reaffirmed their efforts to provide a free, fair, open, and transparent investment environment and markets, and to maintain the rule-based system of the World Trade Organization (WTO).<sup>3043</sup>

On 31 August 2022, the United States and Japan met in a second round of meetings regarding the United States-Japan Partnership on Trade, which aims to create consistent communication and collaboration over bilateral trade issues. The meeting covered issues of fair treatment of US products in Japan and transparency.<sup>3044</sup>

On 11 October 2022, Minister Nishimura held a meeting with Australia's Minister for Trade and Tourism Don Farrell and Assistant Minister for Trade Tim Ayres in the Fourth Japan-Australia Ministerial Economic Dialogue to discuss economic issues between Japan and Australia.<sup>3045</sup> The Ministers agreed for cooperation under the auspices of the IPEF to uphold free and fair trade, with the WTO's rules-based multilateral trading system at its core. The ministers agreed to continue the momentum and outcomes achieved at the WTO's 12th Ministerial Conference, committing to cooperate on restoring a fully functional dispute settlement system by 2024.

On 7 November 2022, Minister Nishimura held a meeting with Costa Rica's Minister of Foreign Trade Manuel Tovar and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship Arnoldo André, confirming Japan and Costa Rica's sharing in the fundamental values of freedom, democracy, and the rule of law.<sup>3046</sup> They also agreed to strengthen trade and investment ties between Japan and Costa Rica, and also promote free trade in the Asia-Pacific region.

On 14 November 2022, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Shinichi Nakatani held a meeting with Chile's President Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle, confirming Japan and Chile sharing fundamental values on freedom, human rights, democracy, and the rule of law.<sup>3047</sup> They discussed cooperation and strengthening of bilateral trade and investment between Japan and Chile, and also the promotion of free trade in the Asia-Pacific region.

On 17 November 2022, Minister Yasutoshi visited Bangkok, Thailand to attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial Meeting.<sup>3048</sup> Minister Nishimura made important remarks at the Ministerial Meeting, stressing the importance of building a free and fair economic order in the Asia-Pacific region without market-distortion and economic coercion, reforming the World Trade Organization in preparation for the World Trade Organization's 13<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference, and the importance of supply chain resilience with the use of digital technology and the Data Free Flow with Trust (DFFT) philosophy.

On 17 November 2022, Minister Nishimura met with United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai in a bilateral meeting during the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial Meeting.<sup>3049</sup> They discussed collaboration for the G7 Trade Ministerial Meeting 2023 chaired by Japan. Minister Nishimura expressed concerns regarding electronic vehicle tax credits under the United States Inflation Reduction Act.

---

<sup>3043</sup> Joint Ministerial Statement of the Fifth Meeting of the Joint Committee on Cooperation in Industry, Trade and Energy Between The Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (MOIT) and The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (METI), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 23 August 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2022/08/20220823001/20220823001-a.pdf>

<sup>3044</sup> Readout of the Second Meeting of the U.S.-Japan Partnership on Trade, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 25 August 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/august/readout-second-meeting-us-japan-partnership-trade>

<sup>3045</sup> Japan-Australia Ministerial Economic Dialogue, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 11 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2022/10/20221011006/20221011006-1.pdf>

<sup>3046</sup> Minister Nishimura Holds Meeting with H.E. Dr. Manuel Tovar, Minister of Foreign Trade and H.E. Dr. Arnoldo André, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Republic of Costa Rica, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 7 November 2022. Access Date: 17 December 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1107\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1107_001.html)

<sup>3047</sup> State Minister Nakatani Holds Meeting with H.E. Mr. Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle, Former President of the Republic of Chile, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 14 November 2022. Access Date: 17 December 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1114\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1114_001.html)

<sup>3048</sup> Minister Nishimura Attends APEC Ministerial Meeting, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 18 November 2022. Date Access: 18 December 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1118\\_003.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1118_003.html)

<sup>3049</sup> Minister Nishimura Attends APEC Ministerial Meeting, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 18 November 2022. Date Access: 18 December 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1118\\_003.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1118_003.html)

On 17 November 2022, Minister Nishimura met with Papua New Guinea's Minister for International Trade and Investment Richard Maru in a bilateral meeting during the APEC Ministerial Meeting.<sup>3050</sup> They discussed future cooperation and deepening of economic relations between Japan and Papua New Guinea.

On 18 November 2022, Minister Nishimura met with Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong, Emeritus Senior Minister and Chairman of the Monetary Authority Goh Chok Tong, and Second Minister for Trade and Industry and Minister for Manpower Tan See Leng to discuss the partnership of Japan and Singapore on how to proceed with Economic Partnership Agreements.<sup>3051</sup> Minister Nishimura discussed trade policy regarding the IPEF, the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership in the Indo-Pacific region.

On 22 November 2022, the Government of Japan and the Government of the State of Israel decided to launch the Joint Study Group on the possibility of a Japan-Israel Economic Partnership Agreement.<sup>3052</sup>

On 2 December 2022, the Cabinet of Japan enacted a Cabinet Order that will impose anti-dumping duties on hot-dipped galvanized steel wire originating from Korea and China.<sup>3053</sup> The Council on Customs, Tariff, Foreign Exchange and Other Transaction decided to impose anti-dumping duties ranging from 9.8 per cent to 41.7 per cent. The duties will be imposed on Korea and China, with the exception for the regions of Hong Kong and Macau, starting 8 December 2022 and lasting until 7 December 2027.

On 20 January 2023, Minister Nishimura Yasutoshi hosted a ministerial meeting on the World Trade Organization Joint Statement Initiative on E-commerce in Davos, Switzerland.<sup>3054</sup>

On 31 January 2023, the Cabinet enacted a Cabinet Order to extend the taxable period of anti-dumping duties on polyethylene terephthalate with a high degree of polymerization originating from the People's Republic of China.<sup>3055</sup> The taxable period of the current anti-dumping duties will be extended for a period of five years starting from 3 February 2023 until 2 February 2028.

On 8 March 2023, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry decided to initiate an expiry review of the anti-dumping duties on Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide originating in the People's Republic of China, in alignment with existing WTO rules.<sup>3056</sup>

On 10 March 2023, the Cabinet approved Japan's participation in the Multi-Party Interim Appeal Arbitration Arrangement (MPIA) while stating that Japan would notify the WTO Dispute Settlement Body of its intent to

---

<sup>3050</sup> Minister Nishimura Attends APEC Ministerial Meeting, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 18 November 2022. Date Access: 18 December 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1118\\_003.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1118_003.html)

<sup>3051</sup> Minister Nishimura Visits Singapore, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 18 November 2022. Access Date: 18 December 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1118\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1118_002.html)

<sup>3052</sup> Launching of the Joint Study Group on the possibility of a Japan-Israel Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 22 November 2022. Access Date: 18 December 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1122\\_003.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1122_003.html)

<sup>3053</sup> Decision to Impose Anti-Dumping Duties on Hot-dipped Galvanized Steel Wire Originating in the Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 2 December 2022. Access Date: 18 December 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1202\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1202_001.html)

<sup>3054</sup> WTO Joint Statement Initiative on E-commerce: Ministerial Meeting Held and Statement by Co-convenors Released, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 20 January 2023. Access Date: 2 February 2023. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2023/0120\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2023/0120_002.html)

<sup>3055</sup> Decision to Extend the Taxable Period of Anti-Dumping Duties on Polyethylene Terephthalate with a High Degree of Polymerization Originating in the People's Republic of China, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 31 January 2023. Access Date: 2 February 2023. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2023/0131\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2023/0131_001.html)

<sup>3056</sup> Initiation of an Expiry Review of the Anti-Dumping Duties on Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide Originating in the People's Republic of China, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 8 March 2023. Access Date: 21 April 2023. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2023/0308\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2023/0308_001.html)



join the MPIA.<sup>3057</sup> For context, several WTO members launched the MPIA in April 2020 as an interim mechanism for dispute settlement while the impasse with the WTO Appellate Body continued.

On 16 March 2023, Japan and South Korea concluded their bilateral Export Control Policy Dialogue.<sup>3058</sup> During the Dialogue, South Korea agreed to announce it will withdraw its WTO complaint regarding Japanese export controls and Japan agreed to revise its export control operations on three particular substances to Korea.

On 31 March 2023, Japan announced it would host an online meeting of the G7 Trade Ministers in the upcoming week.<sup>3059</sup> Ministers will discuss strengthening the free and fair trade order including reform of the WTO as well as enhancing resilient supply chains.

On 7 April 2023, in response to a question regarding Japan's recent export controls on semiconductors, Minister Nishimura stated such strict export controls are consistent with existing WTO agreements.<sup>3060</sup> China, the Netherlands and the US requested the WTO to take up the aforementioned measure citing its inconsistency with WTO rules.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition and to strengthen international rules in this regard. With respect to fair and transparent competition, Japan has imposed anti-dumping duties on a particular product emanating from China and initiated measures in response to South Korea's perceived weaker export control regime. Japan has also verbally reaffirmed its support and commitment to fair and transparent competition in the Indo-Pacific region. With respect to strengthening international rules, Japan has expressed support for the IPEF framework, which aims to develop trade rules on the environment, labour and the digital economy. Japan has expressed interest and launched economic trade agreements and partnerships. Finally, Japan also joined the MPIA.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrew Yang*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard.

On 29 June 2022, the United Kingdom extended steel import tariffs for two years. Trade Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan said that these plans deviate from the UK's international obligations but were in the national interest in order to protect the domestic industry.<sup>3061</sup>

On 30 June 2022, Secretary Trevelyan announced the UK would lift 100 priority barriers that are worth GBP20 billion. This will open up new international markets for United Kingdom goods and allow more exports to be shipped off.<sup>3062</sup>

---

<sup>3057</sup> Cabinet Approval on the participation in the MPIA (Multi-Party Interim Appeal Arbitration Arrangement), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 10 March 2023. Access Date: 21 April 2023. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2023/0310\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2023/0310_001.html)

<sup>3058</sup> Japan-Korea Export Control Policy Dialogue Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 16 March 2023. Access Date: 21 April 2023. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2023/0316\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2023/0316_001.html)

<sup>3059</sup> METI Minister Nishimura Holds the 2023 G7 Trade Ministers' Meeting Online, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 31 March 2023. Access Date: 21 April 2023. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2023/0331\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2023/0331_001.html)

<sup>3060</sup> Press Conference by Minister Nishimura (Excerpt), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 7 April 2023. Access Date: 21 March 2023. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/speeches/press\\_conferences/2023/0407001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/speeches/press_conferences/2023/0407001.html)

<sup>3061</sup> Steel import tariffs extended for two years, BBC News (London) 29 June 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-61982431>

<sup>3062</sup> Bonfire of the barriers' to unlock new export markets worth tens of billions, Department for International Trade (London) 30 June 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/bonfire-of-the-barriers-to-unlock-new-export-markets-worth-tens-of-billions>

On 20 July 2022, the United Kingdom signed its second trade and economic Memorandum of Understanding with North Carolina. The agreement will, among other functions, increase partnership by removing barriers to trade and increase investment with growth in electric vehicles and offshore wind.<sup>3063</sup>

On 16 August 2022, the United Kingdom decided to cut import taxes on products from the world's poorest countries. The Developing Countries Trading Scheme will come into effect in January 2023, covering 65 developing countries.<sup>3064</sup> This is an initiative to remove barriers in trade, eradicate poverty and create prosperity in developing countries without the need for dependency on foreign aid.

On 23 August 2022, the United Kingdom and Ukraine announced their joint intention to sign a new digital trade deal to help Ukraine rebuild its economy and protect the livelihoods of Ukrainians.<sup>3065</sup> The new digital agreement will help Ukrainian businesses trade with the United Kingdom more efficiently using electronic transactions, e-signatures, and e-contracts.

On 24 August 2022, the United Kingdom and Qatar agreed to new partnerships at the third United Kingdom-Qatar Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO), announcing two significant agreements to boost trade and investment.<sup>3066</sup> They signed two new Memorandums of Understanding, helping British businesses enter the Qatari market. Additionally, the United Kingdom Export Finance and Qatar Development Bank signed memoranda to boost the sharing of expertise and cooperation.

On 8 October 2022, the first British lamb exports in two decades arrived in the United States of America after the United States Department for Agriculture opened American markets to British lamb last year.<sup>3067</sup>

On 13 October 2022, Trade Secretary Kemi Badenoch announced that the United Kingdom had unlocked overseas markets worth over GBP100 million for alcohol companies.<sup>3068</sup> Import tariffs on British alcohol were lowered or removed in Argentina, Morocco, Angola, and Tunisia. At the same time, the United Kingdom continued its negotiations with India to secure a free trade agreement and its accession to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

On 3 November 2022, the United Kingdom and Malaysia convened the second Joint Committee on Trade and Investment Cooperation in London. The meeting elevated the Joint Committee to a JETCO, enhancing trade, investment, and economic cooperation.<sup>3069</sup> The United Kingdom congratulated Malaysia on ratifying the CPTPP and updated their accession status.

On 3 November 2022, Minister of State for Trade Policy Greg Hands delivered a speech at the Chatham House Global Trade Conference 2022 on the future of global trade and announced his three main trade policy

---

<sup>3063</sup> UK signs second state-level agreement with North Carolina, Department for International Trade (London) 20 July 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-signs-second-state-level-agreement-with-north-carolina>

<sup>3064</sup> UK to cut import taxes from some of world's poorest countries, BBC News (London) 16 August 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-62557128>

<sup>3065</sup> UK and Ukraine launch talks on digital trade deal to support Ukrainian businesses, Department for International Trade (London) 23 August 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-ukraine-launch-talks-on-digital-trade-deal-to-support-ukrainian-businesses>

<sup>3066</sup> UK agrees two deals with major gulf trading partner Qatar, Department for International Trade (London) 24 August 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-agrees-two-deals-with-major-gulf-trading-partner-qatar>

<sup>3067</sup> British lamb shipped to America for first time in over two decades, Department for International Trade (London) 8 October 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-lamb-shipped-to-america-for-first-time-in-over-two-decades>

<sup>3068</sup> Trade wins unlock markets worth over £100 million for UK alcohol companies – with more to come, Department for International Trade (London) 13 October 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/trade-wins-unlock-markets-worth-over-100-million-for-uk-alcohol-companies-with-more-to-come>

<sup>3069</sup> UK-Malaysia joint statement at Joint Committee, Department for International Trade (London) 3 November 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-malaysia-joint-statement-at-joint-committee>

priorities. The first priority is for the United Kingdom to join the CPTPP.<sup>3070</sup> The second priority is for the United Kingdom to be the first G7 member to complete a trade deal with India. The third priority is to work on removing trade barriers around the world and solve issues that prevent the export and import of goods. Minister Hands reiterated the removal of tariffs on Ukrainian goods under the UK-Ukrainian Free Trade agreement and the provision of economic support of GBP1 billion in loan guarantees.

On 7 November 2022, Minister Hands visited Taiwan to co-host the UK-Taiwan 25th annual Trade Talks and boost United Kingdom-Taiwan trade.<sup>3071</sup> Innovate UK will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Economic Affairs in Taiwan, which includes a GBP5 million funding commitment through to 2025 that will support technology and innovation collaboration.

On 10 November 2022, Minister Greg Hands co-chaired the second consultation between the UK and the economic ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) with the Cambodia's Minister of Commerce Pan Sorasak.<sup>3072</sup> Trade between the United Kingdom and ASEAN had increased by 3.7 per cent from 2020 to 2021, from GBP36.6 billion to GBP38 billion.

On 17 November 2022, the United Kingdom and Switzerland signed a Mutual Recognition Agreement to reduce non-tariff barriers related to conformity assessment in five sectors.<sup>3073</sup> The Mutual Recognition Agreement will allow goods to be tested in their country of origin and not require testing once reaching the country of destination.

On 30 November 2022, Trade Secretary Kemi Badenoch and Ukraine's First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Economy Yulia Svyrydenko met in London to agree the new Digital Trade Agreement (DTA) between the United Kingdom and Ukraine.<sup>3074</sup> The DTA will greatly enhance cooperation and trade between the United Kingdom and Ukraine on cybersecurity and technological innovations, as well as making digital trade between the United Kingdom and Ukraine more efficient and cheaper.

On 7 December 2022, the United Kingdom and the US state of South Carolina signed a MoU on cooperation and trade relations.<sup>3075</sup> The MoU will strengthen cooperation in the automotive and life sciences industries and also create a framework to grow investment, address trade barriers, and enhance business networks.

On 17 December 2022, the Secretary of State for International Trade applied definitive anti-dumping duties on certain aluminum goods originating from China.<sup>3076</sup> This decision comes from the recommendation from the Trade Remedies Authority following an investigation regarding the dumping of aluminum goods originating from China in 2021.

---

<sup>3070</sup> Minister Hands: Chatham House Global Trade Conference 2022 speech, Department for International Trade (London) 3 November 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/minister-hands-chatham-house-global-trade-conference-2022-speech>

<sup>3071</sup> UK strengthens Taiwan trade ties as Minister visits Taipei, Department for International Trade (London) 7 November 2022. Access Date: 23 December 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-strengthens-taiwan-trade-ties-as-minister-visits-taipei>

<sup>3072</sup> Second ASEAN Economic Ministers-UK Consultation – Joint Statement, Department for International Trade (London) 10 November 2022. Access Date: 17 January 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/second-asean-economic-ministers-uk-consultation-joint-statement>

<sup>3073</sup> UK-Switzerland Mutual Recognition Agreement, Department for International Trade (London) 17 November 2022. Access Date: 23 December 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-switzerland-mutual-recognition-agreement#full-publication-update-history>

<sup>3074</sup> UK and Ukraine agree ground-breaking digital trade deal, Department for International Trade (London) 22 November 2022. Access Date: 23 December 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-ukraine-agree-ground-breaking-digital-trade-deal>

<sup>3075</sup> UK and South Carolina co-operation and trade memorandum of understanding, Department of International Trade (London) 8 December 2022. Access Date: 23 December 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-and-south-carolina-co-operation-and-trade-memorandum-of-understanding>

<sup>3076</sup> Taxation notice 2022/11: definitive anti-dumping duties on certain aluminium extrusions originating from China, Department for International Trade (London) 16 December 2022. Access Date: 23 December 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/trade-remedies-notices-definitive-anti-dumping-duties-on-certain-aluminium-extrusions-from-china/taxation-notice-202211-definitive-anti-dumping-duties-on-certain-aluminium-extrusions-originating-from-china>

On 24 December 2022, the UK Government secured the removal of rules that banned certain exports of pork products to Korea.<sup>3077</sup> This will allow UK companies to bring bacon, ham, and pork sausages to Korea that may be worth GBP1 million over five years.

On 30 December 2022, the Department of International Trade published a statement that touted the benefits UK businesses would experience from the pending entry into force of the UK-Australia Free Trade Agreement.<sup>3078</sup> The five per cent tariff on gin and tonic water will be removed. The UK-Australia free trade agreement is expected to increase trade between the United Kingdom and Australia by 53 per cent and boost the United Kingdom economy by GBP 2.3 million.

On 24 January 2023, the UK Department of International Trade revised the Framework Document for the Trade Remedies Authority (TRA).<sup>3079</sup> The document sets out the framework within which the Department of Trade and the Trade Remedies Authority operate.

On 24 January 2023, during the WTO's fifth Trade Policy Review (TPR) of the Dominican Republic, the UK's Permanent Representative to the WTO in Geneva Simon Manley lamented the Dominican Republic's lack of progress on transparency related to sanitary and phytosanitary measure notifications and noted the parties' mutual desire to further develop sustainable and inclusive trade.<sup>3080</sup>

On 31 January 2023, the UK Government accepted the TRA recommendation to retain existing countervailing and anti-dumping duties on imports of continuous glass fibre from China.<sup>3081</sup>

On 8 February 2023, during the WTO's eighth TPR of Malaysia, Ambassador Manley encouraged Malaysia to join the Services Domestic Regulation joint statement initiatives (JSI) and highlighted the UK's optimism to further cooperate in the Ministerial-led Joint Economic Trade Committee.<sup>3082</sup>

On 10 February 2023, the UK and India concluded the seventh round of negotiations on the prospective UK-India FTA.<sup>3083</sup> The UK stated that the eighth round of negotiations will take place later in Spring 2023.

On 27 February 2023, in a statement about a trade promotion mission in India, the Department for International Trade confirmed the UK and India continue to negotiate a prospective free trade agreement.<sup>3084</sup>

---

<sup>3077</sup> British pigs in blankets on the menu in South Korea this Christmas thanks to trade win, Department for International Trade (London) 24 December 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-pigs-in-blankets-on-the-menu-in-south-korea-this-christmas-thanks-to-trade-win>

<sup>3078</sup> Aussies to toast tariff-free British G&Ts in 2023 under new trade deal, Department for International Trade (London) 30 December 2022. Access Date: 2 February 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/aussies-to-toast-tariff-free-british-gts-in-2023-under-new-trade-deal>

<sup>3079</sup> Framework Document for the Trade Remedies Authority, Department for International Trade (London) 24 January 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/framework-document-for-the-trade-remedies-authority/framework-document-for-the-trade-remedies-authority>

<sup>3080</sup> World Trade Organization's Dominican Republic Trade Policy Review, January 2023: UK statement, Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (London) 27 January 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/world-trade-organisations-dominican-republic-trade-policy-review-january-2023-uk-statement>

<sup>3081</sup> Government accepts recommendation to keep measures on imports of Continuous Glass Fibre from China, Trade Remedies Authority (London) 31 January 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-accepts-recommendation-to-keep-measures-on-imports-of-continuous-glass-fibre-from-china>

<sup>3082</sup> UK statement on World Trade Organization's review of Malaysia's Trade Policy, February 2023, Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (London) 9 February 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/uk-statement-on-world-trade-organizations-review-of-malysias-trade-policy-february-2023>

<sup>3083</sup> Joint outcome statement: UK-India round seven FTA negotiations, Department for International Trade (London) 6 March 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-outcome-statement-uk-india-round-seven-fta-negotiations>

<sup>3084</sup> Top British brands embark on first UK fashion and beauty sales mission to India, Department for International Trade (London) 27 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/top-british-brands-embark-on-first-uk-fashion-and-beauty-sales-mission-to-india>

On 1 March 2023, the UK Government accepted the TRA recommendation to extend anti-dumping measures on imports of steel rebar from China.<sup>3085</sup> The European Commission originally imposed the duties in July 2016 which were maintained following the UK's departure from the EU.

On 1 March 2023, during the WTO's fifteenth TPR of Japan, Ambassador Manley thanked Japan for being a co-convenor of the E-Commerce JSI and stated that the UK looks forward to working with Japan to conclude substantive negotiations in 2023.<sup>3086</sup> He also stated their appreciation of Japan's efforts to launch certification requests for the Services Domestic Regulation JSI in December 2022. Finally, Ambassador Manley stated that the UK will support Japan during its G7 Presidency in developing a comprehensive package on economic security that will foster a more resilient global trading system.

On 6 March 2023, the UK spoke on a variety of agenda items during the WTO General Council.<sup>3087</sup> Inter alia, the UK commented on Cameroon's working paper on subsidy reform, supported the tabling of the LDC Graduation proposal at the LDC sub-committee, reiterated their flexibility on the deadline for negotiations paragraph 8 of the MC12 decision on the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) and suggested that the Work Programme would be a valuable forum for furthering discussions on the e-commerce customs duty moratorium.

On 6 March 2023, Business and Trade Minister Nusrat Ghani and Canada's Minister of Natural Resources Jonathan Wilkinson signed a landmark bilateral agreement to co-operate on green tech and critical minerals.<sup>3088</sup> In particular, the agreement commits both parties to high environmental, social and governance standards in critical mineral supply chains.

On 9 March 2023, Secretary Badenoch outlined proposed changes to the UK's trade remedies system that will be introduced in Parliament in late March as part of the Finance Bill.<sup>3089</sup> Inter alia, the proposed changes include expanding the mandate of the TRA to investigate bilateral safeguards cases and expanding the powers of the Government to ask the TRA to re-evaluate a decision or to take a different decision than that recommended by the TRA. The changes conclude the Department of International Trade's review of the trade remedies system, which began in June 2021.

On 17 March 2023, during a meeting of the TRIPS Council, the UK stated its preference to maintain the status quo as it pertains to the TRIPS Agreement, believed that the proposal to extend the scope of the TRIPS waiver requires further consensus and echoed Chinese Taipei's point that industrial cooperation between originators and generic producers is needed to enhanced access to COVID-19 therapeutics.<sup>3090</sup>

On 20 March 2023, Secretary Badenoch and Ukraine's First Deputy Prime Minister Svrydenko signed the UK-Ukraine Digital Trade Agreement.<sup>3091</sup> The new agreement contains rules on financial services and cross-border data among others.

---

<sup>3085</sup> TRA final recommendation on Rebar anti-dumping measures upheld, Trade Remedies Authority (London) 1 March 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/tra-final-recommendation-on-rebar-anti-dumping-measures-upheld>

<sup>3086</sup> WTO Trade Policy Review of Japan: UK Statement, Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (London) 1 March 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/wto-trade-policy-review-of-japan-uk-statement>

<sup>3087</sup> World Trade Organization General Council March 2023 UK statements, Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (London) 10 March 2023. Access Date: 24 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-trade-organization-general-council-march-2023-uk-statements>

<sup>3088</sup> UK and Canada sign agreement to boost green tech supply chains, Department for International Trade (London) 6 March 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-canada-sign-agreement-to-boost-green-tech-supply-chains>

<sup>3089</sup> Changes proposed to UK's trade remedies system, Trade Remedies Authority (London) 9 March 2023. Access Date: 23 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/changes-proposed-to-uks-trade-remedies-system>

<sup>3090</sup> WTO TRIPS Council March 2023: UK statement, Department for International Trade (London) 17 March 2023. Access Date: 21 April 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/wto-trips-council-march-2023-uk-statement>

<sup>3091</sup> UK signs historic trade deal with Ukraine as part of enhanced support, Department for International Trade (London) 20 March 2023. Access Date: 4 April 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-signs-historic-trade-deal-with-ukraine-as-part-of-enhanced-support>

On 31 March 2023, following two years of negotiations, Prime Minister Sunak announced the United Kingdom will accede to the CPTPP.<sup>3092</sup> In doing so, the UK agreed to be bound by certain trade rules regarding trade remedies, competition policy, labour policy and environmental policy.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard. On strengthening international rules, the UK has advanced its negotiations with India, North Carolina, Ukraine, Taiwan, Korea, South Africa, South Carolina, ASEAN countries and the parties to the CPTPP. On upholding fair and transparent competition, the UK accepted several recommendations from its Trade Remedies Authority with respect to adopting various measures on nations who were adopting WTO-inconsistent measures.

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

*Analyst: Andrew Yang*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard.

On 20 June 2022, the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) released a report on the progress of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) in regards to the trade of automotive goods.<sup>3093</sup> The United States also continued collaborating with the other signatories to keep trade strong and transparent.

On 7 July 2022, the United States and Canada released a memorandum discussing the process to settle trade disputes over solar products among USCMA members.<sup>3094</sup>

On 8 July 2022, USTR Katherine Tai met with Mexico's Secretary of Economy Minister Tatiana Clouthier Carrillo and Canada's Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business, and Economic Development Mary Ng to discuss free and transparent electronics trade among the countries.<sup>3095</sup> Topics discussed included certain Mexican investment policies that threatened US investment, transparency of biotechnology regulatory processes in Mexico, and the ease at which US electronic payment companies operate in the Mexican economy. With regards to Canada, the ministers agreed to collaborate on issues of softwood dumping in the United States and potential Canadian legislation on digital streaming services.

---

<sup>3092</sup> Conclusion of negotiations on the accession of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and North Ireland to the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership, Department for international trade (London) 31 March 2023. Access Date: 2 April 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/comprehensive-and-progressive-agreement-for-trans-pacific-partnershipcptpp-conclusion-of-negotiations/conclusion-of-negotiations-on-the-accession-of-the-united-kingdom-of-great-britain-and-northern-ireland-to-the-comprehensive-and-progressive-trans-pac>

<sup>3093</sup> USTR Releases Biennial Report on the Operation of the USMCA with Respect to Trade in Automotive Goods, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 30 June 2022. Access Date: 28 October 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/june/ustr-releases-biennial-report-operation-usmca-respect-trade-automotive-goods>

<sup>3094</sup> United States and Canada Announce a Memorandum of Understanding on Trade in Solar Products, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 7 July 2022. Access Date: 28 October 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/july/united-states-and-canada-announce-memorandum-understanding-trade-solar-products>

<sup>3095</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with Canada's Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business, and Economic Development, Mary Ng, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 8 July 2022. Access Date: 28 October 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/july/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-canadas-minister-international-trade-export-promotion>

On 13 July 2022, Deputy USTR Adam Hodge expressed disappointment in Canada's decision to litigate through the World Trade Organization (WTO).<sup>3096</sup> He stated that the US is committed towards reforming the dispute settlement system to be more collaborative.

On 14 July 2022, the United States and Kenya announced the US-Kenya Strategic Trade and Investment Partnership. The partnership agreed to discuss information regarding corruption and bribery in the economy, promoting competition and ease of entry in the digital trade, strengthening regulatory practices, improving the participation of women and youth in the economy, and facilitating the ease of trade between the two countries.<sup>3097</sup> The last point includes measures to settle differences between the respective trade systems and reconsidering and adjusting customs practices.

On 20 July 2022, the United States announced its request to dispute a conflict with Mexico under the USMCA in which Mexican policies favoured domestic state-owned energy and gas enterprises over American companies and their energy products, as well as other private enterprises.<sup>3098</sup>

On 29 July 2022, USTR Tai and Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry Koichi Hagiuda discussed the progress created by the US-Japan Partnership on Trade.<sup>3099</sup> As of the latest meeting, the partnership increased information sharing on forced labour and workers' rights. The ministers agreed to further collaborate on issues of economic coercion and the scope of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework.

On 10 August 2022, USTR Tai spoke at the 2022 United Steelworkers Constitutional Convention, where she highlighted the importance of, and the commitment to, negotiating better trade rules and enforcing existing regulations.<sup>3100</sup> She also discussed integrating the input of workers into new actions and helping small businesses compete.

On 11 August 2022, USTR Tai and the Australian Minister for Trade and Tourism Don Farrell met and highlighted the continued importance of the US-Australia Free Trade Agreement and development of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity.<sup>3101</sup>

---

<sup>3096</sup> Statement from USTR Spokesperson Adam Hodge on a WTO Arbitration Award Announcement, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 13 July 2022. Access Date: 29 October 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/july/statement-ustr-spokesperson-adam-hodge-wto-arbitration-award-announcement>

<sup>3097</sup> United States and Kenya Announce the Launch of the U.S.-Kenya Strategic Trade and Investment Partnership, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 14 July 2022. Access Date: 29 October 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/july/united-states-and-kenya-announce-launch-us-kenya-strategic-trade-and-investment-partnership>

<sup>3098</sup> United States Requests Consultations Under the USMCA Over Mexico's Energy Policies, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 20 July 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/july/united-states-requests-consultations-under-usmca-over-mexicos-energy-policies-0>

<sup>3099</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's meeting with Japan Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry Hagiuda Koichi, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 29 July 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/july/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-japan-minister-economy-trade-and-industry-hagiuda-koichi>

<sup>3100</sup> Remarks by Ambassador Katherine Tai at the 2022 United Steelworkers Constitutional Convention, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 10 August 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/speeches-and-remarks/2022/august/remarks-ambassador-katherine-tai-2022-united-steelworkers-constitutional-convention>

<sup>3101</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with Australian Minister for Trade and Tourism Don Farrell, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 11 August 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/august/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-australian-minister-trade-and-tourism-don-farrell>

On 17 August 2022, the United States and Taiwan announced their broad objectives for new trade negotiations under the US-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade.<sup>3102</sup> Notable objectives include trade facilitation, creation of strong regulatory practices, supporting small and medium businesses, removing discriminatory barriers, and addressing trade distortions like non-market politics and state-owned companies.

On 31 August 2022, the United States and Japan met in a second round of meetings regarding the United States-Japan Partnership on Trade, which aims to create consistent communication and collaboration over bilateral trade issues.<sup>3103</sup> The meeting covered issues of fair treatment of US products in Japan and transparency.

On 7 September 2022, USTR Tai and Korea's Minister for Trade Ahn Dukgeun met to discuss the upcoming Indo-Pacific Economic Framework Ministerial as well as reaffirming cooperation for international economic and trade organizations.<sup>3104</sup>

On 9 September 2022, the United States held the first in-person ministerial meeting of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF), hosting 13 member states.<sup>3105</sup> Discussions included improving fair and free trade, regulatory practices, and increased competition.

On 12 September 2022, United States and Mexican officials convened in Mexico City for the US-Mexico High-Level Economic Dialogue.<sup>3106</sup> The dialogues covered topics ranging from domestic issues and also highlighted the importance of strong and competitive North American trade and supply chains.

On 14 September 2022, USTR Tai and European Commission Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis met during a meeting for G7 trade ministers.<sup>3107</sup> The ministers highlighted the importance of US and EU collaboration on the global trade of steel and aluminum as well as mutual participation in the Trade and Technology Council.

On 16 September 2022, the United States and Paraguay held the first Trade and Investment Council, in which ministers from each of the respective countries confirmed the importance of bilateral collaboration on trade issues.<sup>3108</sup> The ministers agreed to support the ease of trade, including the reformation of customs practices to reduce the cost of bilateral trade. Similarly, discussions on facilitating importation of Paraguayan meat and non-

---

<sup>3102</sup> United States and Taiwan Commence Formal Negotiations on U.S. – Taiwan Initiative on 21st Century Trade, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 17 August 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/august/united-states-and-taiwan-commence-formal-negotiations-us-taiwan-initiative-21st-century-trade>

<sup>3103</sup> Readout of the Second Meeting of the U.S.-Japan Partnership on Trade, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 25 August 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/august/readout-second-meeting-us-japan-partnership-trade>

<sup>3104</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with Korea's Minister for Trade Ahn Dukgeun, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 7 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/september/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-koreas-minister-trade-ahn-dukgeun>

<sup>3105</sup> United States and Indo-Pacific Economic Framework Partners Announce Negotiation Objectives, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 9 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/september/united-states-and-indo-pacific-economic-framework-partners-announce-negotiation-objectives>

<sup>3106</sup> Joint Statement Following the 2022 U.S.-Mexico High-Level Economic Dialogue, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 12 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/september/joint-statement-following-2022-us-mexico-high-level-economic-dialogue>

<sup>3107</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with European Commission Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 14 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/september/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-european-commission-executive-vice-president-valdis>

<sup>3108</sup> United States and Paraguay Convene First Trade and Investment Council, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 16 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/september/united-states-and-paraguay-convene-first-trade-and-investment-council-0>



traditional agricultural goods into the United States were held. The countries also highlighted the importance of good regulatory practices and agreed to share information between government agencies.

On 21 September 2022, USTR Tai met with some G20 members to discuss possible reform to the WTO's dispute settlement system. She highlighted the efficiency and lower costs that could be achieved through these reforms.<sup>3109</sup>

On 29 September 2022, Deputy USTR Sarah Bianchi met with leaders of Pacific Island nations to collaborate to increase trade.<sup>3110</sup> She announced that the United States will create a yearly trade dialogue with the Pacific Islands, and the United States will begin to research existing trade and economic conditions when designing any trade barriers, referencing sectors to boost trade with, and potential areas for improvement. The representative also stated that the United States will improve on the Generalized System of Preferences program to allow for greater input and collaboration with the Pacific Islands Forum to increase the region's access to US markets.

On 29 September 2022, USTR Tai met virtually with the United Kingdom's Secretary of State for International Trade Kemi Badenoch.<sup>3111</sup> The ministers discussed commitment to US-UK bilateral trade and further collaboration on countering China's economic coercion policies.

On 25 October 2022, USTR Tai and Indonesia's Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs Airlangga and Minister for Industry Agus discussed the continued importance of the US-Indonesia bilateral trade relationship and collaboration on certain issues.<sup>3112</sup> These issues included improvements in agricultural trading, regulatory practices, and technological goods trading.

On 30 October 2022, USTR Tai and European Commission Executive Vice President Dombrovskis discussed cooperation ahead of meetings such as the US-EU Trade and Technology Council. Issues discussed included economic coercion in Atlantic economies and challenges in the civil aviation sector.<sup>3113</sup>

On 1 November 2022, the United States and Ecuador established a Fair Trade Working Group and expanded negotiations to increase trade and trade fairness.<sup>3114</sup>

---

<sup>3109</sup> Readout of Ambassador Tai's Dialogue with G20 Trade Ministers on WTO Dispute Settlement Reform, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 21 September 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/node/12179>

<sup>3110</sup> United States Announces Enhanced Engagement with the Pacific Islands, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 29 September 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/september/united-states-announces-enhanced-engagement-pacific-islands-1>

<sup>3111</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with United Kingdom Secretary of State for International Trade Kemi Badenoch, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 29 September 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/september/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-united-kingdom-secretary-state-international-trade-kemi>

<sup>3112</sup> Readout of Ambassador Tai's Meeting with Indonesia's Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs Airlangga and Minister for Industry Agus, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 25 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/october/readout-ambassador-tais-meeting-indonesias-coordinating-minister-economic-affairs-airlangga-and>

<sup>3113</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with European Commission Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 30 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/october/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-european-commission-executive-vice-president-valdis-0>

<sup>3114</sup> The United States and Ecuador to Explore Expanding the Protocol on Trade Rules and Transparency under the Trade and Investment Council (TIC), Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 1 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/united-states-and-ecuador-explore-expanding-protocol-trade-rules-and-transparency-under-trade-and>

On 1 November 2022, USTR Tai met with various EU ministers and declared support and commitment to increase trade relations with EU member states in a way that is environmentally sustainable.<sup>3115</sup> The USTR emphasized commitment to reach meaningful results from the upcoming meeting of the Trade and Technology Council.

On 3 November 2022, USTR Tai and Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry Moses Kuria met to reaffirm commitment to expanding US-Kenya trade relations. The meeting also included topics such as the inclusion of smaller businesses in the economy and making transcontinental African trade more efficient.<sup>3116</sup>

On 3 November 2022, USTR Tai and Mexico's Secretary of the Economy Raquel Buenrostro held a meeting to discuss ongoing trade issues. The ministers highlighted the importance of maintaining US corn exports and improving regulatory processes for Mexican biotechnology products.<sup>3117</sup>

On 9 November 2022, US representatives concluded discussions with Taiwanese ministers regarding the future of bilateral trade. The two countries emphasized the importance of increasing trade, improving regulatory practices, avoiding market corruption and coercion, and improving market freedom for future negotiations.<sup>3118</sup>

On 9 November 2022, the United States and Ukraine agreed to continue efforts to support the recovering Ukrainian economy, including support for internal reforms in Ukraine to create a healthy market environment. The two countries also agreed to update trade negotiations as outlined in existing bilateral trade agreements.<sup>3119</sup>

On 14 November 2022, Deputy USTR Adam Hodge announced continued US support for the commitments laid out in the IPEF, which had its first in-person negotiations in December 2022.<sup>3120</sup> The United States emphasized the importance of collaboration on key international trade issues such as digital trade and supply chains.

On 15 November 2022, USTR Tai met with government officials in Singapore to discuss the upcoming meeting for the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework. They discussed the importance of improving market access in the Indo-Pacific region and generally increasing economic cooperation between the two countries.<sup>3121</sup>

---

<sup>3115</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Trip to the Czech Republic, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 1 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-trip-czech-republic>

<sup>3116</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Virtual Meeting with Kenyan Minister of Investments, Trade and Industry, Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 3 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-virtual-meeting-kenyan-minister-investments-trade-and-industry>

<sup>3117</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Virtual Meeting with Mexico's Secretary of Economy Raquel Buenrostro, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 3 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-virtual-meeting-mexico-secretary-economy-raquel-buenrostro>

<sup>3118</sup> United States and Taiwan Conclude Two Days of Productive Meetings Under the U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 9 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/united-states-and-taiwan-conclude-two-days-productive-meetings-under-us-taiwan-initiative-21st>

<sup>3119</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Virtual Meeting with Ukraine First Deputy Prime Minister-Minister of Economy, Yulia Svyrydenko, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 9 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-ukraine-first-deputy-prime-minister-minister-economy>

<sup>3120</sup> Statement from USTR Spokesperson Adam Hodge on December IPEF Negotiating Round in Australia, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 14 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/statement-ustr-spokesperson-adam-hodge-december-ipef-negotiating-round-australia>

<sup>3121</sup> Readout of Ambassador Tai's Meetings With Government Officials in Singapore, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/readout-ambassador-tais-meetings-government-officials-singapore>

On 17 November 2022, USTR Tai and Papua New Guinea's Minister for International Trade and Investment Richard Maru discussed the improvement of bilateral trade organizations.<sup>3122</sup> The United States also discussed the new Pacific Islands Trade and Investment Dialogue, which aims to generally increase free trade and market access in the Indo-Pacific region.

On 17 November 2022, USTR and Japan's Minister Hagiuda held a meeting to discuss the future of economic cooperation and Japan's future role as the president of the G7.<sup>3123</sup> The representatives prioritized topics of economic security and eliminating non-market practices as well as environmentally sustainable growth.

On 18 November 2022, USTR Tai and Thailand's Minister of Commerce Jurin Laksanawisit met to reaffirm support for bilateral trade between the countries.<sup>3124</sup> They upheld commitment to improving intellectual property laws and enforcement and participation in multilateral trade organizations like the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework.

On 18 November 2022, USTR Tai and China's Minister of Commerce Wang Wentao held a meeting to connect on topics of bilateral trade relations.<sup>3125</sup> The ministers agreed to keep bilateral communications open, and the United States discussed its view of China's participation in multilateral trade.

On 30 November 2022, representatives from the United Kingdom and the United States held a meeting for small and medium business representatives.<sup>3126</sup> The dialogue aimed to gather opinions on the expansion of bilateral trade in an inclusive and free manner, the facilitation of lower customs barriers, and increasing market access.

On 30 November 2022, USTR Tai and Canada's Minister Ng discussed the close trade relationship between the countries and ongoing commitment to multilateral North American trade.<sup>3127</sup> They also discussed possible concerns on pending Canadian digital services legislation that could have a distortionary effect on the market.

---

<sup>3122</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting With Papua New Guinea Minister for International Trade and Investment, Richard Maru, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 17 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-papua-new-guinea-minister-international-trade-and>

<sup>3123</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting With Japan's Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry Nishimura Yasutoshi, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 17 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-japans-minister-economy-trade-and-industry-nishimura>

<sup>3124</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting With Thailand Minister of Commerce Jurin Laksanawisit, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-thailand-minister-commerce-jurin-laksanawisit>

<sup>3125</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting With Minister of Commerce for the People's Republic of China Wang Wentao, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-minister-commerce-peoples-republic-china-wang-wentao>

<sup>3126</sup> USTR, Department of Commerce, Small Business Administration and UK Government Convene the 6th United States-United Kingdom Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprise Dialogue in Edinburgh, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 30 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/ustr-department-commerce-small-business-administration-and-uk-government-convene-6th-united-states>

<sup>3127</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting With Canada's Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business, and Economic Development, Mary Ng, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 30 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-canadas-minister-international-trade-export-promotion>

On 1 December 2022, USTR Tai and Mexico's Secretary Buenrostro discussed commitment to improving rule-based North American trade and regulatory processes.<sup>3128</sup> The representatives also emphasized the importance of slave labour-free trade.

On 1 December 2022, the United States and Argentina held the third meeting of the US-Argentina Trade and Investment Framework.<sup>3129</sup> The representatives from the countries agreed to continue ongoing dialogue about new trade and investment opportunities, and traded concerns on bilateral trade issues and created ideas to solve them. Both countries also emphasized adherence to agreements on strong regulatory practices.

On 4 December 2022, USTR Tai and European Commission Vice President Dombrovskis met during the first Ministerial Meeting of the Working Group with regards to large commercial aviation.<sup>3130</sup> The representatives agreed to continue honouring prior commitments in the subject and fight against China's non-market policies in the aviation sector. The representatives also discussed continued efforts to suspend tariffs resulting from disputes over large civil aviation.

On 5 December 2022, the United States and the EU held the United States and EU Tripartite Trade and Labor Dialogue.<sup>3131</sup> The parties emphasized collaboration on continued economic growth and removing forced labor from supply chains.

On 5 December 2022, the United States and the EU held a meeting of the Trade and Technology Council. The representatives discussed WTO reform, the upcoming launch of the Transatlantic Initiative for Sustainable Trade, and cooperation on trade with Jamaica and Kenya to address supply chain vulnerabilities.<sup>3132</sup>

On 5 December 2022, the Environmental Affairs Council of the United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement convened to discuss environmental protection, citizen involvement in environmental affairs. The Council also discussed the efforts against illegal trade and destruction of wildlife and lumber.

On 6 December 2022, the United States-Bangladesh Trade and Investment Cooperation Agreement met for the sixth time. Topics discussed included increasing market access and regulatory processes for agricultural goods, promoting labor rights, free and fair digital trade policies, and enforcement of intellectual property laws.<sup>3133</sup>

---

<sup>3128</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting With Mexico's Secretary of Economy Raquel Buenrostro, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 1 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/readout-ambassador-katherine-tai-meeting-mexicos-secretary-economy-raquel-buenrostro>

<sup>3129</sup> Joint Statement on the Third Meeting of the United States – Argentina Council on Trade and Investment, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 6 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/joint-statement-third-meeting-united-states-argentina-council-trade-and-investment>

<sup>3130</sup> United States and EU Conclude First Ministerial Meeting of the Large Civil Aircraft Working Group, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/united-states-and-european-union-conclude-first-ministerial-meeting-large-civil-aircraft-working>

<sup>3131</sup> USTR, Department of Labor, European Commission Host Inaugural Principals' Meeting of the U.S.-EU Trade and Labor Dialogue with Union, Business Leaders, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/ustr-department-labor-european-commission-host-inaugural-principals-meeting-us-eu-trade-and-labor>

<sup>3132</sup> U.S.-EU Joint Statement of the Trade and Technology Council, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/us-eu-joint-statement-trade-and-technology-council>

<sup>3133</sup> United States and Bangladesh Convene 6th Meeting of the U.S.-Bangladesh Trade and Investment Cooperation Forum Agreement Council, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 6 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/united-states-and-bangladesh-convene-6th-meeting-us-bangladesh-trade-and-investment-cooperation>

On 8 December 2022, USTR Tai and Canada's Minister of Labor Seamus O'Regan held a meeting to affirm free and fair labor practices. They highlighted the importance of forced labor-free supply chains and sustainable, worker-oriented bilateral trade policies.<sup>3134</sup>

On 9 December 2022, Deputy USTR Hodge expressed concerns over the WTO's conclusions on the steel trade dispute between the United States and China. He said that the WTO cannot handle national security issues through trade dispute settlements, and that it needs to be reformed to better combat the non-market policies of other countries.<sup>3135</sup>

On 12 December 2022, representatives from the United States and Kenya met before the United States Africa Leaders Summit. The representatives discussed the upcoming implementation of the United States-Kenya Strategic Trade and Investment Partnership and African trade integration.<sup>3136</sup>

On 14 December 2022, USTR Tai held a series of meetings with African leaders during the second day of the US-Africa Leaders Summit. First, the Trade Representative met with the General Secretary of the African Continental Free Trade Area to sign a memorandum detailing the importance of continued communication and implementation of free trade resolutions. The United States also held meetings with various African leaders to discuss further integration of African trade with the US government.<sup>3137</sup>

On 15 December 2022, the Office of the USTR and the Department of Commerce sent representatives to Australia for the first Indo-Pacific Economic Framework negotiation meeting. The representatives met with other stakeholders and affirmed their commitment to trade policy transparency throughout the negotiation process.<sup>3138</sup>

On 16 December 2022, the United States and Mexico held a meeting to discuss issues around biotechnology trade and regulations. The United States argued against Mexico's restrictions about the importation of biotechnologies for corn, and Mexican representatives added certain amendments to help resolve the issue. The United States agreed to review the amendments and shortly reach a resolution.<sup>3139</sup>

On 20 December 2022, USTR Tai announced that the United States will expand its challenges to Canadian Dairy Tariff-Rate Quota Policies under the provisions of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement

---

<sup>3134</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with Canada's Minister of Labor Seamus O'Regan, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 8 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-canadas-minister-labor-seamus-oregan>

<sup>3135</sup> Statement from USTR Spokesperson Adam Hodge, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 9 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/statement-ustr-spokesperson-adam-hodge>

<sup>3136</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting With Kenya's Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 12 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-kenyas-ministry-investments-trade-and-industry-cabinet>

<sup>3137</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai and Ambassador Sarah Bianchi's Events on Day Two of the U.S. – Africa Leaders Summit, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 14 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/readout-ambassador-katherine-tai-and-ambassador-sarah-bianchis-events-day-two-us-africa-leaders>

<sup>3138</sup> Joint USTR and Department of Commerce Readout of the First Indo-Pacific Economic Framework Negotiating Round, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 15 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/joint-ustr-and-department-commerce-readout-first-indo-pacific-economic-framework-negotiating-round>

<sup>3139</sup> Joint Statement from Ambassador Tai and Secretary Vilsack after Meeting with Mexican Government Officials, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 16 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/joint-statement-ambassador-tai-and-secretary-vilsack-after-meeting-mexican-government-officials>

(USMCA). The United States claims that Canada has inconsistent criteria for calculating market share and is inhibiting dairy importers and new applicants.<sup>3140</sup>

On 11 January 2023, USTR Tai and the Indian Minister of Commerce and Industry held the 13th meeting of the US-India Trade Policy Forum.<sup>3141</sup> The representatives discussed the progress made by the forum and reviewed future goals. The US Trade Representative announced the launch of a group within the forum on resilient trade, which mainly aims to promote good regulatory practices.

On 12 January 2023, the United States and Switzerland agreed to combine each nation's efforts to inspections of pharmaceutical production by signing the Pharmaceutical Good Manufacturing Practice Agreement.<sup>3142</sup> This new policy aims to make trade of pharmaceuticals more efficient through the exchange of information and creating committees to facilitate these discussions.

On 17 January 2023, the United States and Taiwan concluded a round of in person negotiations for the US-Taiwan Initiative on 21st Century Trade.<sup>3143</sup> The participants discussed issues of anticorruption and good regulatory practices in trade and agreed to keep a steady schedule of further negotiations.

On 17 January 2023, the United States and the European Union signed the US-EU Tariff Rate Quota Agreement.<sup>3144</sup> This agreement aims to protect free trade of US agricultural goods following the existence of the United Kingdom from the European Union.

On 18 January 2023, USTR Tai and the UK Secretary of State for International Trade met to discuss areas of improvement in the US-UK bilateral trade relationship.<sup>3145</sup> Specifically, the representative discussed eliminating non-market economic practices and the importance of World Trade Organization reform.

On 20 January 2023, USTR Tai, Deputy USTR Maria Pagan, and Australia's Assistant Minister for Trade held a meeting at the World Economic Forum.<sup>3146</sup> The United States representative commended Australia for their work on the Indo-Pacific Economic Forum. The representatives also discussed issues of non-market policies and World Trade Organization reform.

On 21 January 2023, USTR Tai, Deputy USTR Pagan, and the South African Minister for Trade and Industry met to discuss the progress of the US-South Africa bilateral trade organization and recognized South Africa's

---

<sup>3140</sup> United States Requests New USMCA Dispute Consultations on Canadian Dairy Tariff-Rate Quota Policies, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/united-states-requests-new-usmca-dispute-consultations-canadian-dairy-tariff-rate-quota-policies>

<sup>3141</sup> Readout of Ambassador Tai's Meeting with Indian Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 11 January 2023. Access Date: 6 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/january/readout-ambassador-tais-meeting-indian-minister-commerce-and-industry-piyush-goyal>

<sup>3142</sup> United States and Switzerland Sign Pharmaceutical Good Manufacturing Practice Agreement, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 12 January 2023. Access Date: 6 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/node/12513>

<sup>3143</sup> Readout of January Negotiating Round Under the U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 17 January 2023. Access Date: 6 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/january/readout-january-negotiating-round-under-us-taiwan-initiative-21st-century-trade-3>

<sup>3144</sup> U.S., EU Sign Tariff Rate Quota Agreement, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 17 January 2023. Access Date: 6 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/january/us-eu-sign-tariff-rate-quota-agreement>

<sup>3145</sup> Readout of Ambassador Tai's Meeting with United Kingdom Secretary of State for International Trade Kemi Badenoch, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 18 January 2023. Access Date: 6 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/january/readout-ambassador-tais-meeting-united-kingdom-secretary-state-international-trade-kemi-badenoch>

<sup>3146</sup> Readout of Ambassador Tai's Meeting with Australia's Assistant Minister for Trade Tim Ayres, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2023. Access Date: 6 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/january/readout-ambassador-tais-meeting-australias-assistant-minister-trade-tim-ayres>

efforts at the African Leaders Summit.<sup>3147</sup> The representatives also discussed the importance of increasing US trade with the African continent and World Trade Organization reform.

On 23 January 2023, the Office of the USTR and the Department of Agriculture released a statement regarding the Mexican government's plans to halt imports of US biotechnology.<sup>3148</sup> The statement claimed that Mexico's decision "is not grounded in science" and will harm bilateral trade. The representatives also discussed their continued commitment to strengthening the US-Mexico bilateral trade relationship and finding a solution for this conflict.

On 25 January 2023, the Deputy USTR and Canada's Deputy Minister held a meeting to discuss North American economic integration.<sup>3149</sup> Specifically, the representatives discussed Mexican energy measures that could harm Canadian and American investment. The US representative also brought into consideration a pending Canadian digital services law that could hurt US business.

On 25 January 2023, the Deputy USTR and Mexico's Under Secretary of Economy for Foreign Trade met to discuss North American economic integration and commitment to continued bilateral trade.<sup>3150</sup> The representatives discussed issues with new Mexican trade laws against US biotechnology and emphasized the potential impact of new Mexican regulatory laws on US free trade.

On 26 January 2023, representatives from the United States, Mexico, and Canada met to discuss the progress of North American multilateral trade and trade issues.<sup>3151</sup> The representatives released a statement about promoting integrating and competitiveness in the continent, promoting environmental-conscious trade, and successful implementation of trade agreements.

On 31 January 2023, the United States Trade Representative released a statement regarding Canada's continued failure to uphold its United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement commitments.<sup>3152</sup> According to the US Trade Representative, Canada's new dairy allocation program undermines market access under the USMCA, and the Canadian government has not made improvements despite losing a USMCA dispute on the issue. The United States called on Canada to honor its commitments.

---

<sup>3147</sup> Readout of Ambassador Tai's Meeting with South African Minister of Trade and Industry Ebrahim Patel, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 21 January 2023. Access Date: 6 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/january/readout-ambassador-tais-meeting-south-african-minister-trade-and-industry-ebrahim-patel>

<sup>3148</sup> Statement by USTR and USDA Officials Regarding Meetings in Mexico City, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 23 January 2023. Access Date: 7 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/january/statement-ustr-and-usda-officials-regarding-meetings-mexico-city>

<sup>3149</sup> Readout of Ambassador Jayme White's Meeting with Canada's Deputy Minister for International Trade Rob Stewart, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 25 January 2023. Access Date: 7 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/january/readout-ambassador-jayme-whites-meeting-canadas-deputy-minister-international-trade-rob-stewart>

<sup>3150</sup> Readout of Ambassador Jayme White's Meeting with Mexico's Under Secretary of Economy Alejandro Encinas, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 25 January 2023. Access Date: 7 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/january/readout-ambassador-jayme-whites-meeting-mexicos-under-secretary-economy-alejandro-encinas>

<sup>3151</sup> United States, Mexico and Canada Joint Statement on the Second USMCA/CUSMA/T-MEC Deputies Meeting, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 26 January 2023. Access Date: 7 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/january/united-states-mexico-and-canada-joint-statement-second-usmca-cusma-t-mec-deputies-meeting>

<sup>3152</sup> United States Establishes Second USMCA Dispute Panel on Canadian Dairy Tariff-Rate Quota Policies, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 31 January 2023. Access Date: 7 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/january/united-states-establishes-second-usmca-dispute-panel-canadian-dairy-tariff-rate-quota-policies>

On 3 February 2023, the United States and Japan met for the third round of the United States-Japan Partnership on Trade.<sup>3153</sup> The representatives aimed to improve bilateral trade by holding frequent meetings, and topics discussed included combating non-market policies, emphasizing trade transparency, promoting free trade in the digital economy, improving economic bilateral cooperation, and combating forced labor.

On 10 February 2023, the United States and Kenya held their last meetings for the opening round of the US-Kenya Strategic Trade and Investment Partnership.<sup>3154</sup> The representatives discussed economic integration in Africa and promoting small and medium businesses in trade. The representatives also emphasized the importance of anticorruption and good regulatory practices.

On 14 February 2023, USTR Tai and the Vietnamese Prime Minister met to discuss the 10th anniversary of the US-Vietnam Comprehensive Partnership and discussed the importance of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework.<sup>3155</sup>

On 14 February 2023, the Deputy USTR released a statement that emphasized India's lessening of pork importation restrictions, reduced agricultural tariffs, and elimination of a duty for industrial ethanol.<sup>3156</sup>

On 16 February 2023, USTR Tai and Malaysia's Minister of International Trade and Industry met to discuss the strengthening of the US-Malaysia bilateral relationship, and progress in the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework.<sup>3157</sup>

On 17 February 2023, USTR Tai held a meeting with EU Vice President Dombrovskis to discuss sustainable and free trade of metals like aluminum and decreasing non-market excess to benefit the climate and workers.<sup>3158</sup> The representatives also emphasized cooperation to combat non-market policies.

On 18 February 2023, USTR Tai met with Germany's Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action about continued collaboration in the face of climate issues and economic coercion.<sup>3159</sup> The representatives highlighted Germany's commitment to global rules on the excess trade of metals like steel.

---

<sup>3153</sup> Readout of the Third Round of Meetings of the U.S.-Japan Partnership on Trade, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 3 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/february/readout-third-round-meetings-us-japan-partnership-trade>

<sup>3154</sup> United States and Kenya Conclude Opening Round Under the U.S.-Kenya Strategic Trade and Investment Partnership, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 10 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/february/united-states-and-kenya-conclude-opening-round-under-us-kenya-strategic-trade-and-investment>

<sup>3155</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with Vietnam Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 14 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/february/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-vietnam-prime-minister-pham-minh-chinh>

<sup>3156</sup> Statement from Ambassador Sarah Bianchi on Air India's Purchase of Boeing Aircraft, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 14 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/february/statement-ambassador-sarah-bianchi-air-indias-purchase-boeing-aircraft>

<sup>3157</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with Malaysia's Minister of International Trade and Industry Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 16 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/february/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-malysias-minister-international-trade-and-industry-tengku>

<sup>3158</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with European Union Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 17 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/february/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-european-union-executive-vice-president-valdis-dombrovskis>

<sup>3159</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with Germany's Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Robert Habeck, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 18 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/february/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-germanys-federal-minister-economic-affairs-and-climate>



On 23 February 2023, the United States and Pakistan met under the US-Pakistan Trade and Investment Framework.<sup>3160</sup> The representatives discussed the importance of good regulatory practices and intellectual rights enforcement, and representatives from Pakistan discussed increasing market access for agricultural goods like mangos and dates.

On 6 March 2023, the Office of the USTR released a statement on its request for technical consultations with Mexico about Mexican biotechnology regulations.<sup>3161</sup> The USTR claims that Mexican policies are not “science-based” and may lead to a disruption in agriculture trade.

On 14 March 2023, the USTR and the Czech Republic’s Minister of Industry and Trade Jozef Sikela met to discuss the future of bilateral trade.<sup>3162</sup> The ministers agreed to keep communication open and collaborate to combat non-market policies at the Trade and Technology Council later in the year.

On 14 March 2023, the USTR and the Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs Hadja Lahbib met to discuss the upcoming US-EU Trade and Technology Council and bilateral trade.<sup>3163</sup> The representatives agreed to combat non-market excess and the importance of WTO reform.

On 17 March 2023, representatives from the United States met with representatives from Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan at the US-Central Trade and Investment Framework Agreement.<sup>3164</sup> The representatives discussed strengthening trade ties with the US and each other, the enhancement of supply chains and the streamlining of customs procedures. Discussion on strengthening alignment to trade rules like intellectual property rules and fair labor rules were discussed.

On 28 March 2023, the USTR and Japan’s Ambassador to the United States Tomita Koji signed an agreement on the strengthening of mineral supply chains.<sup>3165</sup> The agreement will strengthen free and rule-based mineral trade and increase information sharing.

On 30 March 2023, the USTR met with South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol to discuss improvements to the US-Korea bilateral trade relationship.<sup>3166</sup> The representatives also discussed Korea’s participation at the IPEF for Prosperity.

---

<sup>3160</sup> Joint Statement from the 9th U.S.-Pakistan TIFA Council Ministerial, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 23 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/february/joint-statement-9th-us-pakistan-tifa-council-ministerial>

<sup>3161</sup> USTR Announces USMCA Technical Consultations with Mexico on Agricultural Biotechnology, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 6 March 2023. Access Date: 8 April 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/march/ustr-announces-usmca-technical-consultations-mexico-agricultural-biotechnology>

<sup>3162</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai’s Meeting with Czech Republic’s Minister of Industry and Trade Jozef Sikela, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 14 March 2023. Access Date: 8 April 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/march/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-czech-republics-minister-industry-and-trade-jozef-sikela>

<sup>3163</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai’s Meeting with Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs Hadja Lahbib, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 14 March 2023. Access Date: 8 April 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/march/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-belgian-minister-foreign-affairs-hadja-lahbib>

<sup>3164</sup> Joint Statement on the Results of the Council Meeting of the U.S. – Central Asia Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA), Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 17 March 2023. Access Date: 9 April 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/march/joint-statement-results-council-meeting-us-central-asia-trade-and-investment-framework-agreement>

<sup>3165</sup> United States and Japan Sign Critical Minerals Agreement, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 28 March 2023. Access Date: 9 April 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/march/united-states-and-japan-sign-critical-minerals-agreement>

<sup>3166</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai’s Meeting with Republic of Korea President Yoon Suk Yeol, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 30 March 2023. Access Date: 9 April 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/march/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-republic-korea-president-yoon-suk-yeol>

On 30 March 2023, Deputy USTR Jayme White and the United Kingdom's Minister of State at the Department for Business Nigel Huddleston met to discuss future progress for the UK-US trade relationship.<sup>3167</sup> The representatives also discussed the US Inflation Reduction act and combating non-market policies.

On 31 March 2023, the United States and Mexico agreed to start remedies to address the failure to meet worker's rights laws under the USMCA.<sup>3168</sup> Earlier, Mexico had found violations of both Mexican law and the USMCA at the Manufacturas UV facility and agreed to cooperate on the resolution of the problem.

On 5 April 2023, representatives from the United States and New Zealand met to discuss regional trade cooperation and increased multilateral trade with Pacific Island nations.<sup>3169</sup> The representatives also discussed how to achieve common goals through meetings of the IPEF.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard. On strengthening international trade rules, the US enacted a variety of actions, including the improvement and creation of new free trade agreements, and supporting proposals on WTO reforms. On fair and transparent competition, aside from verbal reaffirmations with its trading partners, the US also initiated its own dispute with Mexico under the consultation mechanisms of the USMCA.

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

*Analyst: Erin Mulaşımoglu*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard.

On 28 June 2022, the EU completed trade talks with New Zealand on a new bilateral free trade agreement.<sup>3170</sup> The agreement aims to create sustainable growth and trade between the countries.

On 30 June 2022, the Council of the EU announced a new regulation on foreign subsidies granted to EU companies.<sup>3171</sup> The regulation will examine such subsidies dating from five years prior to the new regulation and determine if the subsidy undermines fair competition. Then, member states will be expected to reduce these distortions, including fines on businesses.

On 5 July 2022, the European Parliament approved a resolution of guidelines to expect from EU-India trade talks. Some expectations include the banning of India's "buy national" policies that limit imports, elimination of India's

---

<sup>3167</sup> Readout of Ambassador Jayme White's Meeting with Minister of State Nigel Huddleston and Visit to London, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 30 March 2023. Access Date: 9 April 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/march/readout-ambassador-jayme-whites-meeting-minister-state-nigel-huddleston-and-visit-london>

<sup>3168</sup> United States and Mexico Announce Plan to Remediate Denials of Rights at Manufacturas VU Facility, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 31 March 2023. Access Date: 9 April 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/march/united-states-and-mexico-announce-plan-remediate-denials-rights-manufacturas-vu-facility>

<sup>3169</sup> United States and New Zealand Meet Under Bilateral Trade and Investment Framework Agreement, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 5 April 2023. Access Date: 9 April 2023. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2023/april/united-states-and-new-zealand-meet-under-bilateral-trade-and-investment-framework-agreement>

<sup>3170</sup> Lead MEPs on the EU-New Zealand trade agreement, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 30 June 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20220628IPR34004/lead-meps-on-the-eu-new-zealand-trade-agreement>

<sup>3171</sup> Foreign subsidies distorting the internal market: provisional political agreement between the Council and the European Parliament, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 30 June 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/06/30/foreign-subsidies-regulation-political-agreement/>

technical certifications on certain goods, and fair agriculture trade.<sup>3172</sup> The Parliament highlights the importance of the potential trade agreement to be in accordance with other EU commitments like the Paris Agreement.

On 18 July 2022, the European Parliament Trade Committee held a meeting in Bangladesh to discuss the nation's upgrade to the Generalized Scheme Plus status.<sup>3173</sup> If Bangladesh is approved for the program, it will have to begin paying duties on clothing exports as part of a market diversification initiative. Bangladesh's role in the EU's "Everything but Arms" trade preference agreement was also discussed. This agreement allows all non-weapon and ammunition goods to enter the EU tariff-free.

On 14 September 2022, European Commission Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis and the United States Trade Representative (USTR) Katherine Tai met during a meeting for G7 trade ministers.<sup>3174</sup> The ministers highlighted the importance of US and EU collaboration on the global trade of steel and aluminum as well as mutual participation in the Trade and Technology Council.

On 21 September 2022, the EU entered into a bilateral comprehensive economic agreement with Australia. The agreement aims to cover political and social issues as well as issues of economy and free trade.<sup>3175</sup>

On 10 October 2022, the European Parliament passed new regulations to protect the EU against economic blackmail by other nations.<sup>3176</sup> These new regulations aim to prevent other nations by performing economic coercion on EU member states and take steps to help the member state recover from such instances.

On 17 October 2022, the Council of the EU released its conclusions following the Trade and Sustainability Review.<sup>3177</sup> The Council highlighted the importance of sustainable and free trade, the enforcement of agreements and rule-based order, and the role of multinational agreements.

On 24 October 2022, the Council of the EU adopted new customs regulations to facilitate the ease of international trade.<sup>3178</sup> The EU decided to implement a single window for customs, which allows for businesses to only have to submit documents to a single place. The Council claimed that this new system will "make clearance simpler" and increase trade security.

---

<sup>3172</sup> EU-India trade talks: base them on values, says Parliament, EU Parliament (Strasbourg) 5 July 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20220701IPR34354/eu-india-trade-talks-base-them-on-values-says-parliament>

<sup>3173</sup> European Parliament delegation in Bangladesh to discuss trade, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 15 July 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20220711IPR35016/european-parliament-delegation-in-bangladesh-to-discuss-trade>

<sup>3174</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with European Commission Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 14 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/september/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-european-commission-executive-vice-president-valdis>

<sup>3175</sup> EU-Australia: Council adopts decision for the conclusion of a framework agreement, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 20 September 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/09/20/eu-australia-council-adopts-decision-for-the-conclusion-of-a-framework-agreement/>

<sup>3176</sup> MEPs back new trade instrument to protect the EU from economic blackmail, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 10 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20221010IPR42635/meps-back-new-trade-instrument-to-protect-the-eu-from-economic-blackmail>

<sup>3177</sup> Council Conclusions on the Trade and Sustainability Review, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 17 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/10/17/council-conclusions-on-the-trade-and-sustainability-review/>

<sup>3178</sup> Council adopted EU single window for customs, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 24 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/10/24/council-adopted-eu-single-window-for-customs/>

On 30 October 2022, Executive Vice President Dombrovskis and USTR Tai discussed cooperation ahead of meetings such as the US-EU Trade and Technology Council. Issues discussed included economic coercion in Atlantic economies and challenges in the civil aviation sector.<sup>3179</sup>

On 1 November 2022, the European Parliament Trade Committee sent a delegation to Kenya to discuss trade opportunities.<sup>3180</sup> In addition to the promotion of increased trade, the two sides discussed binding agreements on environmental protections and human rights.

On 1 November 2022, various EU ministers met with USTR Tai and declared support and commitment to increase trade relations with EU member states in a way that is environmentally sustainable.<sup>3181</sup>

On 16 November 2022, the EU member states agreed on their negotiating positions for new regulations to protect the EU against economic coercion.<sup>3182</sup> Under this proposed legislation, the EU can utilize open dialogue between nations and possible proportional trade restrictions to incentivize non-market policies. The Council of the EU asked for greater involvement in defining what actions and policies count as economic coercion.

On 28 November 2022, the EU Council announced its final approval for the new foreign subsidies regulation.<sup>3183</sup> This regulation investigates subsidies granted by non-EU states in order to detect possible market distortion and protect competitive trade.

On 30 November 2022, the EU and the United Kingdom announced provisional agreements in regards to the Withdrawal Agreement and the Trade and Cooperation Agreement.<sup>3184</sup> Under these new provisions, the EU outlined several defensive measures to use against the UK should the state ever violate the terms of the two agreements.

On 4 December 2022, Vice President Dombrovskis and USTR Tai met during the first Ministerial Meeting of the Working Group with regards to large commercial aviation.<sup>3185</sup> They agreed to continue honoring prior commitments in the subject and fight against China's non-market policies in the aviation sector. The representatives also discussed continued efforts to suspend tariffs resulting from disputes over large civil aviation.

---

<sup>3179</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Meeting with European Commission Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 30 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/october/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-meeting-european-commission-executive-vice-president-valdis-0>

<sup>3180</sup> Trade committee discusses interim Economic Partnership Agreement in Kenya, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 28 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20221024IPR45741/trade-committee-discusses-interim-economic-partnership-agreement-in-kenya>

<sup>3181</sup> Readout of Ambassador Katherine Tai's Trip to the Czech Republic, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 1 November 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/november/readout-ambassador-katherine-tais-trip-czech-republic>

<sup>3182</sup> Trade: Council Agrees negotiating position on economic anti-coercion rules, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 16 November 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/11/16/trade-council-agrees-negotiating-position-on-economic-anti-coercion-rules/>

<sup>3183</sup> Council gives final approval to tackling distortive foreign subsidies on the internal market, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 28 November 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/11/28/council-gives-final-approval-to-tackling-distortive-foreign-subsidies-on-the-internal-market/>

<sup>3184</sup> EU-UK relations: Council Presidency and European Parliament reach provisional agreement on a regulation on autonomous measures, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 30 November 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/11/30/eu-uk-relations-council-presidency-and-european-parliament-reach-provisional-agreement-on-a-regulation-on-autonomous-measures/>

<sup>3185</sup> United States and EU Conclude First Ministerial Meeting of the Large Civil Aircraft Working Group, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/united-states-and-european-union-conclude-first-ministerial-meeting-large-civil-aircraft-working>

On 5 December 2022, the EU and the United States held a tripartite Trade and Labor Dialogue.<sup>3186</sup> The parties emphasized collaboration on continued economic growth and removing forced labor from supply chains.

On 5 December 2022, the EU and the United States held a meeting of the Trade and Technology Council.<sup>3187</sup> The representatives discussed World Trade Organization reform, the upcoming launch of the Transatlantic Initiative for Sustainable Trade, and cooperation on trade with Jamaica and Kenya to address supply chain vulnerabilities.

On 8 December 2022, the EU announced guidelines for the European Commission and the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to adopt with regards to upcoming negotiations with Tajikistan on the Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement.<sup>3188</sup> This upcoming bilateral trade agreement hopes to improve free trade between the EU and Tajikistan and promote sustainable, worker-oriented growth.

On 14 December 2022, the EU and Thailand announced the signing of the EU-Thailand Partnership and Cooperation Agreement.<sup>3189</sup> The agreement aims to promote support between the nations and covers issues concerning international and bilateral trade.

On 14 December 2022, the EU and Malaysia met in Brussels to sign the new EU-Malaysia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement.<sup>3190</sup> The agreement covers a wide range of issues, including the promotion of continued dialogue and improvement of trade relations.

On 21 December 2022, the EU Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee concluded meetings with Ireland concerning the EU-UK trade relationship post-Brexit.<sup>3191</sup> The representatives discussed customs issues due to Brexit, the free movement of goods between Ireland and North Ireland, and digital trade.

On 18 January 2023, President of the European Council Charles Michel released a report concerning the European Union's issues with the United States' Inflation Reduction Act.<sup>3192</sup> President Michel claimed it could harm international competition and trade rules and called for dialogue with the United States on the topic.

---

<sup>3186</sup> USTR, Department of Labor, European Commission Host Inaugural Principals' Meeting of the U.S.-EU Trade and Labor Dialogue with Union, Business Leaders, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/ustr-department-labor-european-commission-host-inaugural-principals-meeting-us-eu-trade-and-labor>

<sup>3187</sup> U.S.-EU Joint Statement of the Trade and Technology Council, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2022/december/us-eu-joint-statement-trade-and-technology-council>

<sup>3188</sup> EU to launch negotiations on a new agreement with Tajikistan, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 8 December 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/12/08/eu-to-launch-negotiations-on-a-new-agreement-with-tajikistan/>

<sup>3189</sup> Indo-Pacific: The EU and Thailand sign Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, Council of the European Union (Brussels). 14 December 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/12/14/indo-pacific-the-european-union-and-thailand-sign-partnership-and-cooperation-agreement/>

<sup>3190</sup> Indo-Pacific: The EU and Malaysia sign Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, Council of the European Union (Brussels). 14 December 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/12/14/indo-pacific-the-european-union-and-malaysia-sign-partnership-and-cooperation-agreement/>

<sup>3191</sup> Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee delegation to visit Ireland, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 16 December 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20221216IPR64906/internal-market-and-consumer-protection-committee-delegation-to-visit-ireland>

<sup>3192</sup> Report by President Charles Michel to the European Parliament plenary session, European Council (Brussels). 18 January 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2023/01/18/report-by-president-charles-michel-to-the-european-parliament-plenary-session/>

On 20 February 2023, the European Union and Japan signed an agreement allowing EU airlines non-discriminatory access to routes between the two regions, promoting open and fair competition.<sup>3193</sup> This agreement additionally aims to increase economic cooperation between the EU and Japan.

On 10 March 2023, the European Union and the United States launched new talks on trade in critical minerals.<sup>3194</sup> The two parties intend for the talks to contribute to the effort of building secure supply chains for manufacturing electric vehicle batteries. Unnamed US officials stated that a prospective fuller agreement would also include ambitious standards on labour and the environment.

On 15 March 2023, the EU and Thailand relaunched negotiations on an ambitious FTA that has sustainability at its core.<sup>3195</sup> The EU stated the FTA will feature robust and enforceable disciplines on Trade and Sustainable Development (TSD) as well as the removal of barriers to digital trade and trade in energy and raw materials.

On 28 March 2023, the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament provisionally agreed to a policy (“Anti Coercion Instrument”) meant to protect EU member states from economic coercion by third countries that target the EU with measures that affect trade or investment.<sup>3196</sup>

The EU has fully complied with its commitment to uphold fair and transparent competition in the global economy and to strengthen international rules in this regard. The EU has entered and discussed multiple bilateral free trade agreements. The EU has also vocalized its intent to promote free and fair trade and has created policies to reduce the cost and burden of international trade, thus reducing barriers to trade. Finally, the EU has implemented internal policies designed to prevent and recover from trade abuses.

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

*Analyst: Erin Mulazimoglu*

---

<sup>3193</sup> External aviation policy: EU signs agreement boosting air services with Japan, Council of the European Union (Brussels). 20 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2023/02/20/external-aviation-policy-eu-signs-agreement-boosting-air-services-with-japan/>

<sup>3194</sup> US and EU launch new talks on critical minerals trade in green tech race, Financial Times (London) 10 March 2023. Access Date: 5 April 2023. <https://www.ft.com/content/257f7d0d-cf9d-472b-9c49-e9aafa7977de>

<sup>3195</sup> EU and Thailand relaunch trade negotiations, European Commission (Brussels) 15 March 2023. Access Date: 5 April 2023. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_23\\_1628](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_1628)

<sup>3196</sup> Trade: political agreement on the anti-coercion instrument, Council of the European Union (Brussels). 28 March 2023. Access Date: 9 April 2023. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2023/03/28/trade-political-agreement-on-the-anti-coercion-instrument/>