



Third country investors urge Brexit progress at June EU Council Summit

Brussels, 25 June 2018 – Ahead of the European Council summit taking place from 28-29 June 2018, international businesses who are heavily invested in both the EU and the UK are calling for urgent progress on the key outstanding issues remaining in the talks. Resolving as many of the remaining concerns as possible is becoming more urgent by the day – with the clock ticking towards the October deadline for a final Withdrawal Agreement.

Businesses recognise the complexity of issues surrounding the future of the Irish border and that satisfactorily resolving these political concerns may take more time. The EU and the UK should continue their efforts to achieve agreement here. Meanwhile, policymakers should dedicate time and thought at the upcoming summit to addressing other remaining issues, including those involving governance, regulatory cooperation and post-Brexit preparedness.

Reaching agreement on these issues will provide businesses with more confidence that a Withdrawal Agreement can be agreed and ratified, thereby providing legal certainty for the proposed transition period and avoiding the worst-case ‘cliff-edge’ scenario in March 2019. It will also allow both parties to move towards more detailed discussions on the future framework, which is of essential importance to companies who are planning their long-term operations and investments.

We look forward to the UK government’s upcoming White Paper on its vision for future ties and to engaging constructively with both sides towards the ultimate goal of an ambitious new EU-UK relationship which works for businesses, consumers and citizens.

Signatories:

The American Chamber of Commerce to the EU (AmCham EU)
Canada Europe Roundtable for Business (CERT)
Europe India Chamber of Commerce (EICC)
Japan Business Council in Europe (JBCE)

AmCham EU

AmCham EU speaks for American companies committed to Europe on trade, investment and competitiveness issues. It aims to ensure a growth-orientated business and investment climate in Europe. AmCham EU facilitates the resolution of transatlantic issues that impact business and plays a role in creating better understanding of EU and US positions on business matters. Aggregate US investment in Europe totalled more than €2 trillion in 2017, directly supports more than 4.7 million jobs in Europe, and generates billions of euros annually in income, trade and research and development.

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Canada Europe Roundtable for Business (CERT)

The Canada Europe Roundtable for Business is dedicated to creating business opportunities between Canada and the European Union. Founded in 1999, CERT develops company-member interests by contributing recommendations on trade and investment to government officials and hosting thematic, high-level meetings focused on developing strategic relationships between company executives and with government officials. CERT is a strong advocate for comprehensive bilateral free trade and investment and organized the support of more than 100 Chief Executives for a greater level of ambition for bilateral commercial liberalization. The result included a [Declaration in support of a Canada-EU Trade and Investment Agreement](#) that was submitted to heads of government in late 2008. At the EU-Summit Summit on May 6, 2009 in Prague, the leaders of the European Union and Canada announced the launch of negotiations towards a comprehensive economic and trade agreement (CETA). The CETA officially entered into force on September 25, 2017 and is the most ambitious trade agreement ever negotiated by both the EU and Canada.

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Europe India Chamber of Commerce (EICC)

EICC provides a platform for profitable interaction between the European and Indian business to enhance trade and commerce in their respective countries and directs its energy in assisting Indian inbound investments into Europe, and leverages on this experience by assisting European companies and organizations through the various networks which have been built in India. The EICC is the only chamber of its kind at the Apex level to the existing bi-lateral chambers across Europe and by bringing “Pan-European” perspective to its activities and policies, EICC ensures serving the larger interest for European and Indian businesses and to meet its objectives, it closely collaborates with likeminded chambers to create new pathways to serve the interest of Indian and European businesses

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About JBCE

The Japan Business Council in Europe was established in 1999 and is a leading European organisation representing the interests of more than 80 multinational companies of Japanese parentage operating in the European Union.

Our members operate across a wide range of sectors, including electronics, wholesale trade, precision instruments, pharmaceutical, railway, textiles, glass, automotive, financial service and chemical manufacturing.

Building a new era of cooperation between the EU and Japan is the core of our activities. The key goal of JBCE is to contribute to EU public policy in a positive and constructive way by drawing on the expertise and experience of our member companies.

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