



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

STATEMENT

The **Transatlantic Business Council** is following with the highest interest the conversations between the European Union and the United States representatives to improve the trade relationship, following President Juncker's visit to the White House on July 25, 2018.

We **welcomed the announcement** by the United States Trade Representative Ambassador Lighthizer of October 6 formally declaring the intention of negotiating a trade agreement with the EU. We have also **positively received** the declared intention by the European Commission to strengthen the cooperation with the United States on regulatory issues and standards in a series of areas, in particular in new technologies and alternative regulatory frameworks, while preserving those conversations outside trade negotiations as such.

We understand that both sides may have different expectations regarding what can effectively be achieved. Nevertheless, **we call on the negotiators on both sides to engage in this process with the utmost commitment and sense of urgency**, and to make all possible effort to deliver constructive results in the shortest possible time. And **we reaffirm our offer to support this process in whatever way we can**, in order to preserve and develop the best transatlantic economic and trading relationship.

Washington - Brussels, November 20, 2018

***NOTE:** The Trans-Atlantic Business Council (TABC) is currently the largest cross-sectoral organization representing companies from both the United States and Europe in support of a strong transatlantic agenda in trade and investment. It was formed in 2013 by the merger of the Trans-Atlantic Business Dialogue (TABD) and the European American Business Council (EABC). Since 1995, the TABD has been the officially designated body that provides the transatlantic business community's input and views on key trade, financial, and commercial issues directly to senior members of the EU and U.S. government.*

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