

EU trade policy digest July–September 2026

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Recent developments in EU trade policy

European Commission: [Negotiations and agreements](#)

Update

AGRINFO summary of progress in European Union (EU) trade negotiations with low- and middle-income countries, and other policy developments that may impact on trade in agri-food products.

For detail see [EU Trade Policy July–September 2026](#).

Recent developments

EU trade negotiations with low- and middle-income countries

Armenia: The EU has approved temporary trade liberalisation measures for Armenian products in response to recent Russian trade restrictions.

Côte d'Ivoire: The European Commission has launched negotiations for a bilateral Sustainable Investment Facilitation Agreement (SIFA) between the EU and Côte d'Ivoire. Building on the joint Sustainable Cocoa Initiative, discussions under the SIFA will also aim to strengthen cooperation on sustainable investment, traceability, and resilient cocoa value chains.

India: The European Commission has submitted proposals, including details of tariff reductions and tariff rate quotas, to EU Member States for formal approval of the EU–India Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

Philippines: The EU and the Philippines have now reached substantial agreement in their negotiations for an FTA.

Trade policy

Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) procedures: The European Commission has adopted two Regulations setting out procedures for countries to apply for GSP+ status, and procedures for withdrawing preferences and establishing safeguards under the new GSP Regulation [2026/1395](#).

GSP review: A Commission report on trade under the GSP shows that in 2024, 88.8% of trade was carried out making use of preferential tariffs. The rate was higher for less developed countries benefiting from zero tariffs under the Everything But Arms (EBA) Agreement, at 94.5%. For countries with GSP+ status, the rate was 87.3%.

EU forced labour product ban: The European Commission has published new Guidelines to help stakeholders implement the Forced Labour Regulation [2024/3015](#), which will apply from 14 December 2027.

Public procurement: The Commission has adopted a proposal to modernise and simplify the EU's public procurement framework, including rules on participation in public procurement by non-EU stakeholders.

Sources

European Commission: [Negotiations and agreements](#)

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