



Stakeholder consultation report on the implementation of selected aspects of the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

STUDY



EPRS | European Parliamentary Research Service

Ex-Post Evaluation Unit
PE 753.175 – November 2023

EN

Stakeholder consultation report on the implementation of selected aspects of the EU- Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

Study

The European Parliament's Committee on International Trade is currently scrutinising implementation of the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) through a dedicated report. This stakeholder consultation report offers evidence in support of the committee's work on the implementation report. The stakeholder consultation report focuses on key areas that have garnered significant attention throughout the CETA negotiations and the ratification process. It also discusses provisions that have posed challenges or remained under-utilised.

Trade data indicate that CETA has had a positive impact on EU-Canada trade in goods and services. Stakeholders, including businesses and civil society, generally express satisfaction with CETA's implementation after the initial 5-year provisional application period, noting growth in bilateral trade, positive public procurement outcomes, and the absence of major concerns in protecting public service sectors. However, some challenges remain, such as the need for more concrete progress in regulatory cooperation, increased transparency in committee activities, greater business involvement to minimise government-to-government discussions, and improved engagement of civil society, particularly regarding labour and environmental protection issues.

Stakeholders have also raised concerns about the incomplete ratification of CETA. Swift ratification is essential to bolster and enhance the EU's trade policy credibility, not least in view of other significant trade agreements, such as the EU-Mercosur agreement, the deal with New Zealand, and potential future trade agreements with other countries.

AUTHORS

This paper has been written by Dr Matthias Bauer of the Tutwa Europe Network at the request of the Ex-post Evaluation Unit of the Directorate for Impact Assessment and Foresight, within the Directorate-General for Parliamentary Research Services (EPRS) of the Secretariat of the European Parliament.

ADMINISTRATORS RESPONSIBLE

Hubert Dalli and Talander Jansen, Ex-Post Evaluation Unit, EPRS

To contact the publisher, please e-mail EPRS-ExPostEvaluation@ep.europa.eu

LINGUISTIC VERSIONS

Original: EN

Manuscript completed in October 2023.

DISCLAIMER AND COPYRIGHT

This document is prepared for, and addressed to, the Members and staff of the European Parliament as background material to assist them in their parliamentary work. The content of the document is the sole responsibility of its author(s) and any opinions expressed herein should not be taken to represent an official position of the Parliament.

Reproduction and translation for non-commercial purposes are authorised, provided the source is acknowledged and the European Parliament is given prior notice and sent a copy.

Brussels © European Union, 2023.

PE: 753.175

ISBN: 978-92-848-1241-7

DOI: 10.2861/766926

CAT: QA-02-23-191-EN-N

ep@ep.europa.eu

<http://www.eprs.ep.parl.union.eu> (intranet)

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank> (internet)

<http://epthinktank.eu> (blog)

Executive summary

This stakeholder consultation report, published by the Ex-Post Evaluation Unit of the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS), is produced in support of the work of the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade on the implementation report on the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) (2023/2001(INI)).

The aim of the stakeholder consultation was to collect relevant empirical data on the impact of the implementation of CETA from the perspective of the EU business sector and other selected relevant stakeholders. The interviewees represent organisations from different sectors with different interests, experiences, and expertise. They include individual businesses, business associations and civil society groups. The report is based on a qualitative stakeholder consultation and the findings are complemented with secondary data. It focuses on key areas that have garnered significant attention throughout the CETA negotiations and the process of ratification. It also discusses provisions that have posed challenges or remained underutilised. Priority areas are:

- trade in goods (with a dedicated focus on products that are subject to quotas, like beef and cheese);
- trade in services;
- access to government procurement;
- the safeguard of public services; and
- the relevance of trade and sustainable development (TSD) provisions.

Trade data indicate that CETA has had a positive impact on EU-Canada trade in goods after five years of provisional application. The agreement has led to increased trade in goods between the EU and Canada by significantly reducing or eliminating tariffs and non-tariff trade barriers on a wide range of products, benefiting businesses and consumers in both regions. Several sections of the agreement are dedicated to enhancing trade in services, aiming to facilitate greater market access and regulatory cooperation across various service sectors. Trade data also show that CETA has contributed to increased EU services trade with Canada.

During consultations, it was generally reported that stakeholders from businesses and civil society are content with the progress of CETA's implementation following its initial 5-year provisional application. Positive feedback was received regarding the growth of bilateral trade in goods and services, as well as the collaborative efforts within CETA committees, working groups, the regulatory cooperation forum, and the domestic advisory groups.

Most stakeholders acknowledged the substantial increase in bilateral trade in goods and the expanding services trade. The implementation of public procurement commitments under CETA was also viewed positively, with European companies having benefited from increased transparency and improved access to various levels of Canadian government procurement.

With regard to the protection of public service sectors, including sensitive areas, all interviewees except one expressed no issues or concerns. The implementation of the CETA Trade and Sustainable Development chapter was generally well-received, with stakeholders confirming that it has not impeded the regulatory autonomy of Canada or the EU. Both parties continued to develop and enact environmental, labour market, and other sustainability-related policies.

Some ongoing challenges were noted by several stakeholders. These include the need for more tangible progress in regulatory cooperation, increased transparency in committees and working group activities, enhanced participation of businesses to avoid exclusive government-to-government discussions, and improved participation of civil society members, particularly concerning matters related to labour and environmental protection.

Table of contents

1. Aims and objectives of the report	1
2. Methodological approach	2
3. Key provisions	3
3.1. Trade in goods (with focus on products that are subject to quotas)	3
3.2. Trade in services	3
3.3. Access to government procurement	4
3.4. Safeguard of public services	5
3.5. Trade and sustainable development (TSD) provisions	6
4. Effectiveness of implementation	7
4.1. Trade in goods (with focus on products that are subject to quotas)	7
4.2. Trade in services	10
4.3. Access to government procurement	13
4.4. Safeguard of public services	13
4.5. Trade and sustainable development (TSD) provisions	14
5. Thematic priorities of interviews	16
6. Findings of the qualitative stakeholder consultation	18
6.1. General perception of the state of implementation of CETA	18
6.2. Trade in goods (with focus on products that are subject to quotas and other trade barriers)	20
6.3. Trade in services	24
6.4. Access to government procurement	25
6.5. Safeguard of public services	26
6.6. Trade and sustainable development (TSD) provisions	26
7. Conclusions	28

Table of figures

Figure 1: Aggregate EU-Canada goods trade and trade balance, 2017 vs. 2022, in EUR billion __ 7

Figure 2: Aggregate EU-Canada trade in services and trade balance, 2017 vs. 2022, in EUR billion10

Table of tables

Table 1: Development of EU-Canada trade in goods, 2017 to 2022, in EUR billion_____ 7

Table 2: Development of EU-Canada trade in services, 2017 to 2022, in EUR billion_____ 10

Table 3: Interview questions_____ 16

List of abbreviations

AML	Anti-money laundering
BCA	Bilateral cooperation agreement
BEUC	European Consumer Organisation
CCRA	Common criteria recognition arrangement
CETA	EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement
CEUTIA	Canada EU Trade and Investment Association
CGCIC	Canadian German Chamber of Industry and Commerce
CLC	Canadian Labour Congress
COOL	Country-of-origin labelling
CSA	Canadian Space Agency
CSR	Corporate social responsibility
DAG	Domestic advisory group
DG EPRS	Directorate General for Parliamentary Research Services
EA	European co-operation for Accreditation
EFPIA	European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations
EMC	Electromagnetic compatibility
EPSU	European Public Service Union
ESF	European Services Forum
ETUC	European Trade Union Confederation
EVAL	Ex-Post Evaluation Unit
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services
ICT	Computer and telecommunication services
ILO	International Labour Organization
INTA	Committee on International Trade of the European Parliament
ISDS	Investor-state dispute settlement
ITUC	International Trade Union Confederation
LTO	Netherlands Agricultural and Horticultural Association
MNE	Multinational enterprises
MRA	Mutual recognition agreement
NAB	National accreditation bodies

NTB	Non-tariff barriers to trade
OECD	Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development
RBC	Responsible business conduct
REX	Registered exporter system
RCF	Regulatory Cooperation Forum
SAQ	Société des alcools du Québec
SCC	Standards Council of Canada
SICE	Sociedad Ibérica de Construcciones Eléctricas
SPA	Single point of access
TBT	Technical barriers to trade
TED	Tenders Electronic Daily
ToR	Terms of reference
TRQ	Tariff-rate quota
TSD	Trade and sustainable development
USMCA	United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement
WTO	World Trade Organization

1. Aims and objectives of the report

The EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) entered into force provisionally in 2017, implying that most of the agreement already applies. CETA aims to create an expanded market for Canadian and EU goods and services, through the reduction or elimination of barriers to trade and investment and establish transparent and predictable rules to govern trade and investment. The European Parliament gave its consent to CETA on 15 February 2017. The agreement has been provisionally applied since 21 September 2017.

CETA is a progressive trade agreement. It includes some of the strongest commitments ever included in an EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) to promote labour rights, environmental protection, and sustainable development. CETA integrates the several EU and Canadian commitments to apply binding international rules on workers' rights, environmental protection, and climate action.

The Committee on International Trade of the European Parliament (INTA committee) is in the process of adopting a report on the implementation of the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) (2023/2001(INI)). The purpose of this stakeholder consultation report is to assist the committee in their consideration of progress made during the five-year provisional implementation of CETA. It provides an analysis based on an original qualitative stakeholder consultation on the successes and shortcomings of the implementation of selected aspects of CETA.

Following the technical specifications defined by the Directorate General for Parliamentary Research Services (DG EPRS) of the European Parliament, the aim is to collect relevant empirical data on the impact of the implementation of CETA from the perspective of the EU business sector and other selected relevant stakeholders. The report is based on a qualitative stakeholder consultation and the findings are complemented with secondary data.

The report addresses priority areas that have been highly visible during CETA negotiations and ratifications, as well as provisions of the agreement that have proven problematic or that have not been used (such as certain trade preferences). These priority areas are:

- trade in goods (with a dedicated focus on products that are subject to quotas, like beef and cheese);
- trade in services;
- access to government procurement;
- the safeguard of public services; and
- the relevance of trade and sustainable development (TSD) provisions.

2. Methodological approach

The report combines primary data collected through targeted interviews with business representatives and other relevant stakeholders (targeted qualitative stakeholder consultation). The information gathered through interviews is supplemented and, depending on data availability, triangulated with secondary data, including academic and expert studies, position papers, media coverage, etc.

The analysis builds on targeted stakeholder interviews with representatives of relevant organisations representing businesses and civil society, accounting for a proportionate allocation of, inter alia, sector, geography, and size.¹ The interview partners have been selected in close consultation with DG EPRS. An overview of stakeholders that have been approached is provided in Section 6.

The interviewees represent organisations from different sectors with different interests, experiences, and expertise. They include individual businesses, business associations and civil society groups. The choice of questions is based on the background of the respective organisation, for example the industries represented by a trade association, the sector in which a company operates, or the focus of work of a civil society group. In addition, the interviewees are only asked questions that are related to the five subject areas to be addressed (see above).

To refine and clarify questions pertaining to these subject areas, data from multiple sources is taken into consideration. These include trade statistics, relevant chapters in CETA² as well as the Joint Interpretative Instrument,³ and literature addressing issues related to the implementation. The latter includes meeting reports and other documents published by CETA committees,⁴ documents published by the EU-Canada Domestic Advisory Group (DAG),⁵ and documents published by the European Commission⁶ and the Canadian government.⁷

¹ Interviews were conducted in person or via videoconference. In three instances where a live interview was not possible, neither in person nor via videoconference, feedback was provided through written correspondence.

² European Commission, [‘CETA chapter by chapter’](#), 2023.

³ [‘Joint Interpretative Instrument on the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement \(CETA\) between Canada and the European Union and its Member States’](#), 2017.

⁴ European Commission, [EU-Canada agreement: Committees and Dialogues](#).

⁵ [EU-Canada Domestic Advisory Group](#).

⁶ See, e.g., European Commission, [EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement \(CETA\)](#), 2023.

⁷ See, e.g., Government of Canada, [CETA@5 Delivering trade benefits during unprecedented times](#), 2022.

3. Key provisions

This Section outlines key objectives and provisions of CETA and the Joint Interpretative Instrument⁸ that are of relevance for the analysis of priority areas covered in this report. To identify relevant priority areas and questions for the interviews, additional literature was reviewed, detailing the perceived outcomes, benefits, risks and challenges over the first five years of the agreement's application.

3.1. Trade in goods (with focus on products that are subject to quotas)

CETA significantly reduces or eliminates tariffs on a wide range of goods, which is intended to benefit businesses and consumers in the EU and Canada. Approximately 98 % of tariff lines for goods traded between Canada and the EU will ultimately be eliminated under CETA. Chapter 2 on national treatment and market access for goods sets out the provisions and mechanisms for the reduction and elimination of tariffs on goods traded between the EU and Canada. CETA includes specific schedules outlining the tariff reduction process for different goods. These schedules include base tariffs, the timetable for their reduction, and applicable transition periods for various product categories.

In addition to tariff reductions, CETA also addresses non-tariff barriers to trade (NTBs) in goods. While Chapter 2 focuses primarily on tariff elimination, it also includes provisions to promote transparency, cooperation, and mutual recognition of conformity assessment procedures. These measures aim to reduce NTBs and facilitate market access for goods and to reduce unnecessary burdens and administrative obstacles that could impede trade in goods.

As concerns products that are subject to quotas, CETA seeks to eliminate them or provide greater concessions, thereby expanding trade opportunities for affected products. CETA includes provisions that gradually eliminate or increase the quotas on specific agricultural products. The agreement provides for the expansion of tariff-rate quotas (TRQs) for products such as beef, pork, wheat, and processed grain products. This allows EU and Canadian exporters to access larger quotas and benefit from lower tariffs when exporting these goods. At the same time, CETA also includes agricultural safeguard measures to protect sensitive agricultural sectors. In cases where imports of certain agricultural products under preferential tariff rates exceed a defined threshold, CETA allows for the application of safeguard measures. These measures can be temporary and involve the imposition of additional tariffs or the reintroduction of quotas to address potential market disruptions.

3.2. Trade in services

Several chapters in CETA address trade in services, aiming to promote greater market access and regulatory cooperation in a broad range of services sectors. The key chapters in CETA that cover trade in services are chapter 10 on cross-border trade in services, chapter 11 on the temporary entry for business persons, and Chapter 12 on domestic regulation. In addition, several specific services are addressed by separate chapters, e.g., financial services (chapter 13), international maritime transport services (chapter 14), telecommunications services (chapter 15), and ecommerce (chapter 16).

⁸ The Joint Interpretative Instrument that helped CETA reach the provisional application stage. See [Joint Interpretative Instrument on the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement \(CETA\) between Canada and the European Union and its Member States](#), 2017.

Chapter 10 aims at ensuring:

- National treatment: CETA establishes the principle of national treatment, which ensures that service suppliers from one party are treated no less favourably than domestic service suppliers in the other party.
- Market access: CETA aims to improve market access for services by reducing or eliminating limitations on foreign service suppliers, such as quotas, numerical limitations, and economic needs tests.
- Most-favoured-nation treatment: CETA ensures that each party extends to the other party treatment no less favourable than that provided to any third country. This principle prevents discriminatory treatment between trading partners.
- Regulatory cooperation: CETA promotes regulatory cooperation in services by encouraging parties to exchange information, cooperate in regulatory processes, and enhance compatibility of regulatory frameworks.

Chapter 11 facilitates the temporary entry of businesspersons, including professionals, intra-corporate transferees, and contractual service suppliers. It establishes streamlined procedures for temporary entry, including visa facilitation and expedited processing. Chapter 11 also sets out rules for key personnel and temporary stay of businesspersons.

Chapter 12 emphasises transparency and consultation in the development and application of domestic regulations related to services. This includes providing opportunities for stakeholders to comment on proposed regulations and ensuring transparency in licensing and qualification requirements. It also promotes the use of regulatory measures that are least trade-restrictive while achieving legitimate policy objectives. It encourages parties to consider the impact of their regulations on trade in services and strive for regulatory coherence.

3.3. Access to government procurement

Chapter 19 specifies the areas where EU and Canadian businesses can provide goods and services to each other's governments, including national, regional and provincial, and local administrations. Chapter 19 stresses the principle of non-discrimination, requiring that each party treats suppliers from the other party and their goods, services, and suppliers no less favourably than domestic suppliers in procurement processes. The chapter also establishes monetary thresholds that determine the application of specific provisions. These thresholds define the value of procurement contracts subject to the obligations and procedures set out in the chapter. The chapter also promotes transparency in public procurement by requiring parties to publish procurement-related information, including notices, contract award information, and relevant regulations. In addition, dispute settlement procedures related to public procurement allows suppliers to seek timely and effective resolution of disputes arising from alleged breaches of the obligations under the chapter.⁹

Several exemptions from commitments in the area of public procurement apply on the basis of Article 19.2. The Joint Interpretative Instrument reiterates that EU Member States and Canada will be able to use environmental, social and labour-related criteria in their procurement in a way that is not discriminatory and does not constitute an unnecessary obstacle to international trade.

⁹ Relevant references to public services and safeguards in CETA are Article 8.2.2 (b), Article 8.9, Article 8.15, Article 9.22 (a) (b)(f) and (g), Article 9.7, Article 13.2.5, Article 13.10, Article 13.16, Article 13.17, Article 28.3, Annex I Reservation, and Annex II Reservations. Relevant references to Parties' right to regulate in CETA are CETA Preamble, Article 5.4, Article 6.1.5, Article 8.9, Annex 8-A, Article 21.2.1, Article 21.2.2, Article 22.1, Article 23.3, Article 23.4, Article 24.3, Article 24.4, Article 24.5 and Article 28.3.

3.4. Safeguard of public services

Several provisions in CETA ensure that both parties can maintain and provide public services in a manner consistent with their own policies and priorities. There is no separate chapter on public services, but the agreement introduces public sector carve-outs in the area of investments (Article 8.2) and services (Article 9.2) that exempt activities or services “supplied in the exercise of governmental authority” from the application of the chapter on trade in services and certain elements of the investment chapter. These are defined as services or activities “carried out neither on a commercial basis nor in competition with one or more economic operators” (Articles 8.1 and 9.1).

CETA explicitly states that nothing in the agreement can prevent a party from taking measures necessary to fulfil its public policy objectives. This means that the EU and Canada retain the authority to regulate and provide public services in a manner that aligns with their domestic public policy objectives, including the ability to introduce or maintain measures that support the provision of quality public services. Major safeguards in public services are:

- The right to regulate: CETA affirms the right of each party to regulate in the public interest. It clarifies that the agreement should not be interpreted to prevent parties from adopting or enforcing measures necessary to achieve legitimate public policy objectives, including the protection of public health, safety, and the environment.
- Non-discrimination: CETA includes provisions that prevent discrimination against foreign service providers in the delivery of public services. However, these provisions do not restrict the ability of the EU or Canada to regulate, authorise, or determine the provision of public services in their territories.
- Exceptions and reservations: CETA includes specific exceptions and reservations that allow parties to protect and maintain their ability to regulate and provide public services in sectors such as healthcare, social services, education, and other essential areas. These exceptions ensure that parties can maintain and protect public services without compromising their ability to regulate and govern those sectors.

CETA is very clear on obligations to liberalise the provision of public services. It contains the same reservation about obligations to liberalise that can be found in previous EU agreements and in the General Agreement of Trade in Services (GATS). In addition, due to uncertainties regarding public services carve-outs, which can result from varying interpretation of GATS provisions, the EU and Canada introduced additional list of reservations with exceptions from market access, national treatment, most-favoured nation treatment, and senior staff postings.

EU reservations are applied to the EU as a whole (unless otherwise specified) and each Member State of the EU was given the possibility to introduce individual reservations to complement the EU reservations or to cover additional sectors. Each entry in the schedule of reservations is specific. Public services reservations at EU and Member State level as well as reservations by Canada are outlined in CETA Annexes I and II.

3.5. Trade and sustainable development (TSD) provisions

CETA incorporates some of the most robust obligations on trade and sustainable development ever agreed in an EU trade agreement. Chapter 21 on Trade and Sustainable Development focuses on promoting and integrating sustainable development principles within the trade relationship between the two jurisdictions. It includes strong commitments that emphasise the importance of sustainable development, labour rights, and environmental protection. The agreement brings together EU and Canadian commitments to apply international rules related to workers' rights, environmental protection, and climate action. This is meant to ensure that both parties adhere to established international standards in these areas. The obligations outlined in Chapter 21 are legally binding. Both the EU and Canada are obligated to uphold and enforce the agreed-upon principles, providing a strong foundation for the implementation of sustainable development practices. Major supplementing provisions include:¹⁰

- Labour rights (Chapter 23): The chapter recognises the significance of labour rights and the need to uphold fundamental principles and rights at work. It includes commitments to protect workers' rights, promote decent working conditions, and ensure the effective enforcement of labour laws.
- Environmental protection (Chapter 24): CETA emphasises the importance of environmental protection and the sustainable use of resources. It encourages the adoption of high environmental standards, the promotion of environmental cooperation, and the enforcement of environmental laws and regulations.
- Climate action (Chapter 24): The chapter acknowledges the need for climate action and the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions. It promotes cooperation between the EU and Canada in addressing climate change, supporting clean energy, and implementing sustainable practices.
- Institutional framework: CETA establishes an institutional framework to facilitate cooperation, dialogue, and exchange of information on trade and sustainable development matters. It includes the establishment of a Joint Committee and a dedicated Sustainable Development Committee to oversee the implementation of TSD provisions.

The Joint Interpretative Instrument reiterates the importance of sustainability issues in several instances, including commitments on the protection of labour and the environment, and the right to regulate on these matters.

¹⁰ Relevant references in CETA are chapters 22, 23, and 24.

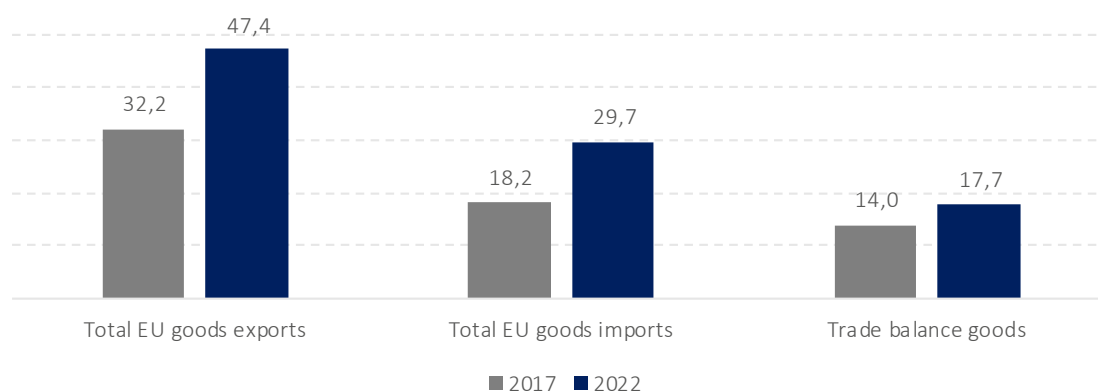
4. Effectiveness of implementation

In order to pinpoint pertinent subjects for the interviews, an analysis of trade data and relevant literature has been conducted. This review delves into the development of trade, progress made in relevant cooperation fora, benefits, risks and challenges during the initial five years of implementing the agreement.

4.1. Trade in goods (with focus on products that are subject to quotas)

Trade data show that after five years of provisional application, CETA has contributed to increased EU trade in goods with Canada. EU-Canada trade in goods has increased by 53 % between 2017 and 2022, while EU-Canada trade in services has increased by 46 %. The EU's trade in goods surplus increased from EUR 14 billion in 2017 to EUR 17.2 billion in 2022 (**Error! Reference source not found.**). EU goods exports to Canada have increased by 47 %. The highest gains are registered for manufactured products, chemical products as well as food and animal products (Table 1).

Figure 1: Aggregate EU-Canada goods trade and trade balance, 2017 vs. 2022, in EUR billion



Source: Eurostat. SITC classification.

Table 1: Development of EU-Canada trade in goods, 2017 to 2022, in EUR billion

EU goods exports	2017	2022	Growth rate
Total goods exports	32.20	47.38	47 %
Machinery and transport equipment	12.96	16.80	30 %
Chemicals and related products, n.e.s.	6.20	11.08	79 %
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	3.39	5.47	62 %
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	3.35	5.06	51 %
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1.93	2.93	52 %
Food and live animals	1.47	2.51	71 %

EU goods exports	2017	2022	Growth rate
Beverages and tobacco	1.38	1.83	32 %
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	0.48	0.64	34 %
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0.14	0.20	38 %
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	0.47	0.13	-72 %
EU goods imports	2017	2022	Growth rate
Total goods imports	18.17	29.65	63 %
Machinery and transport equipment	5.53	7.12	29 %
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	3.88	6.03	55 %
Chemicals and related products, n.e.s.	2.05	4.14	102 %
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	2.09	3.85	84 %
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1.47	3.43	133 %
Food and live animals	1.31	2.31	77 %
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1.10	1.48	35 %
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	0.57	1.19	108 %
Beverages and tobacco	0.04	0.03	-14 %
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0.03	0.02	-34 %

Source: Eurostat. SITC classification.

A recent analysis by the European Commission (2023)¹¹ found that in the first five years of provisional application of CETA there has been a significant expansion of bilateral goods trade, which outperforms extra-EU trade. The analysis further finds that companies have increasingly used preferences under CETA with preference utilisation rates increasing on the EU exports side by 19 percentage points from 39% in 2018 to 58% in 2021 (the latest year for which data were available). On the Canadian exports side, preference utilisation increased by 13 percentage points from 52% in 2018 to 65% in 2021. It was noted that overall preference utilisation rates stood at less than 60% for EU exports to Canada and at about 65% for Canadian exports into the EU. A similar analysis by the Government of Canada¹² confirms these results, highlighting that preference rates sharply increased since 2018, but that there is still potential for exporters on both sides to reap duty savings.

Under CETA, products subject to quotas and TRQs comprise agricultural and foodstuff products, implying that a predetermined quantity of those products can be imported or exported at a preferential tariff rate or duty-free. Products subject to quotas are beef, pork, wheat, cheese, fish and seafood, and alcoholic beverages. Products subject to tariff rate quotas are dairy products (including

¹¹ European Commission, '[CETA: Evolution of key economic indicators](#)', Chief Economist Note, DG Trade, March 2023.

¹² Government of Canada, '[CETA@5 Delivering trade benefits during unprecedented times](#)', 2022.

milk, cream, butter, and cheese), eggs and egg products, poultry, as well as sugar and sugar-containing products.

The analysis of EU imports and preference utilisation by the European Commission finds that TRQs utilisation rate for beef and veal imports to the EU was only 3 % in 2021, remaining largely unchanged compared to 2018, along with a 0 % utilisation rate for pigmeat (pork). It also found that EU exporters are exporting more frozen beef to Canada than vice versa. Compared to pre-CETA levels, EU frozen beef exporters expanded their market share in Canada from 0 % to 12 %.¹³ By contrast, the analysis of EU exports and preference utilisation reveals that the TRQ utilisation rate stands at 98 % for EU cheese exports on average. Industrial cheese exports saw an increase in the utilisation rate by 22 percentage points from 71 % in 2018 to 93 % in 2021.

The data show that EU cheese exporters could also significantly expand on their import market share in Canada from 57 % before the period of the provisional application to 68 % in the period after the provisional application.¹⁴ Trade data further reveal that EU exporters of wine (including sparkling wine), chocolates, pastry and biscuits, aeroplanes, and motor vehicles for the transport of goods have expanded their import market shares in Canada.

Despite these success stories, issues addressed by the Specialised Committee on Agriculture indicate that there is still room for improvements across several implementing aspects. The report of the 5th meeting of the Committee from October 2022,¹⁵ the latest report available, outlines several issues that are important for trade in agricultural products under CETA, especially those that are subject to quotas and TRQs:

- The EU raised concerns about how TRQs for cheese were filled. It was argued that the cheese TRQ management system fails to meet CETA obligations to provide a mechanism which is “as conducive to trade as possible”.
- The EU expressed concerns about Canada’s milk class pricing system and its cheese compositional standards.
- Canada expressed concerns that the EU TRQ administration system for CETA beef and pork TRQs fails to meet the CETA obligation to provide a mechanism whereby import licenses can be issued automatically on demand.
- Canada raised concerns about the potential application of health and environmental standards to agri-food products in the EU. It also raised concerns about the proposed EU regulation to minimise consumption of agricultural and forestry products from supply chains associated with deforestation, and the trade implications of the EU’s regulatory approach to assessing pesticides.
- With respect to food labelling, Canada demanded that any country-of-origin labelling (COOL) measures developed by the EU should be harmonised and predictable EU-wide, and must not create barriers to trade.

The CETA Committee on Wine and Spirits addressed a broad range of issues specific to this industry. According to the report of the latest meeting of March 2023,¹⁶ key aspects discussed by the Committee were:

- Geographical indications and other quality-related schemes for agricultural products;

¹³ A decomposition at EU Member States level reveals that Spanish and Irish beef exporters have gained the most from the market share expansion under CETA while exporters from Australia and Uruguay have lost most in terms of market shares.

¹⁴ The analysis reveals that cheese suppliers from Italy and Ireland have experienced a significant market expansion from 23% to 27% and from 1% to 3% respectively. On the other hand, exporters from the US, Norway and Switzerland have seen their import market share shrinking.

¹⁵ See [CETA Joint Committee on Agriculture](#), October 2022.

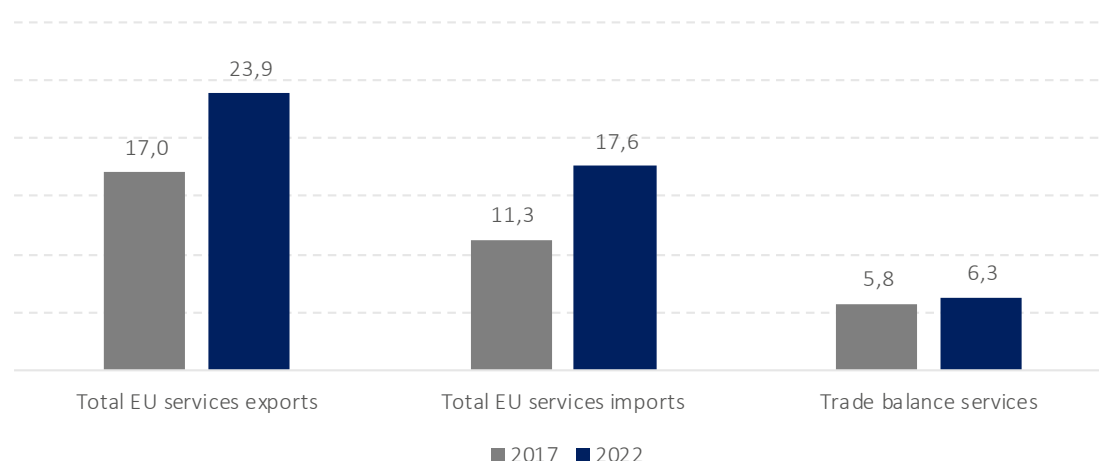
¹⁶ [CETA Joint Committee on Wines and Spirits](#), March 2023.

- The notification and authorisation of penological (winemaking) practices;
- Low-risk drinking guidelines in Canada;
- Health-related and ingredients labelling;
- Import certification of wine imports to the EU (VI-1 certification); and
- Differentials in mark-ups on prices and taxes in Canadian provinces.

4.2. Trade in services

Trade data show that after five years of provisional application, CETA has contributed to increased EU services trade with Canada. EU-Canada trade in services have increased by 46 %. The EU's trade in services surplus increased from EUR 5.8 billion in 2017 to EUR 6.3 billion in 2022 (). EU services exports show an expansion of 40 %, with the highest gains in transport services, business services, and information, computer and telecommunication (ICT) services (Table 2).

Figure 1: Aggregate EU-Canada trade in services and trade balance, 2017 vs. 2022, in EUR billion



Source: Eurostat. SITC classification.

Table 2: Development of EU-Canada trade in services, 2017 to 2022, in EUR billion

EU services exports	2017	2022	Growth rate
Total services exports	17.05	23.86	40 %
Transport	3.56	6.04	70 %
Other business services	2.88	4.63	61 %
Travel	4.07	4.10	1 %
Telecommunications, computer, and information services	1.61	2.72	69 %
Personal, cultural, and recreational services	0.25	1.47	495 %

Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e.	1.76	1.32	-25 %
Services not allocated	0.71	1.27	79 %
Financial services	0.90	0.93	4 %
Maintenance and repair services n.i.e.	0.97	0.78	-20 %
Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others	0.04	0.28	563 %
Insurance and pension services	0.17	0.16	-11 %
Construction	0.10	0.13	28 %
Government goods and services n.i.e.	0.03	0.04	27 %
EU services imports	2017	2022	Growth rate
Total services imports	11.28	17.58	56 %
Other business services	3.01	5.55	84 %
Transport	2.89	4.27	48 %
Travel	2.36	2.52	6 %
Telecommunications, computer, and information services	0.96	2.04	111 %
Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e.	0.30	0.94	209 %
Maintenance and repair services n.i.e.	0.57	0.58	2 %
Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others	0.19	0.56	186 %
Financial services	0.33	0.46	38 %
Personal, cultural, and recreational services	0.38	0.38	0 %
EU services imports	2017	2022	Growth rate
Insurance and pension services	0.17	0.20	15 %
Government goods and services n.i.e.	0.04	0.04	20 %
Construction	0.04	0.03	-35 %
Services not allocated	0.02	0.02	8 %

Source: Eurostat. BPM6 classification.

The Joint Committee on Services and Investment, established under CETA, is responsible for overseeing the implementation and administration of the services-related provisions of the agreement. It serves as a forum for the parties to discuss and address issues related to trade in services, regulatory cooperation, and market access.¹⁷ According to most recent information, the

¹⁷ [CETA Joint Committee on Services and Investment](#).

Committee held only one meeting so far, addressing issues related to investment and services trade. According to the meeting report from September 2018, services trade-related issues addressed by the Committee included:

- Technical discussions towards a potential mutual recognition agreement for architects;
- Canadian rules for cabotage in maritime shipping;
- Performance requirements obligations for financial services;
- difficulties in the understanding of certain reservations made by Member States under Annex 10-E;
- Mode-4 requirements in after-sales maintenance services by short-term business visitors in Canada; and
- Information regarding the requirements for temporary entry of business persons.

The special committee on the Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications held two meetings so far.¹⁸ According to the latest meeting report from November 2022, the Parties presented positions on a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) for the profession of architect.

After nine rounds of negotiations, a CETA MRA Decision was made in February 2022. The Parties committed themselves to maintain regular contact for the next phases of legal review and translation until the text is finalised and formally adopted at a CETA MRA Joint Committee meeting.¹⁹

The special committee on financial services addressed a broad range of issues related to financial services and financial stability. In the first meeting, which was held in June 2018, the Parties exchanged information about domestic regulation of financial services, including financial system reviews, risk assessment and stress testing as well as approaches to regulate different asset classes such as bonds and crypto assets. The latest meeting by the Committee for which a report was made available to the public, was held in October 2022. At the meeting, the Parties discussed market and financial stability implications of Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine, international developments in the financial services sector, and digital finance and sustainable finance, which are important policy areas for both sides. Both sides updated on their respective general regulatory and policy priorities including on banking, insurance, anti-money laundering (AML) and consumer issues. Both sides stressed that the Financial Services Joint Committee is an important forum to share knowledge on financial sector regulation and policies.

The EU and Canada agreed to establish a Joint Committee on Electronic Commerce. However, meetings have not yet taken place. Reports of meetings of the Regulatory Cooperation Forum (RCF) indicate that the Parties did not address issues related to services trade.²⁰ Similarly, the latest report of the 3rd meeting of the CETA Joint Committee does not specifically address services. However, it was highlighted by Canada that future EU regulation of artificial intelligence must not result in technical barriers to trade on new intangible IT products for third parties, such as Canada. Canada also expressed concerns about EU approaches to regulate cybersecurity. It was argued that a single standard for cybersecurity requirements already exists, the Common Criteria Recognition Arrangement (CCRA), and that like-minded partners including many EU Member States have signed onto it.²¹

¹⁸ [CETA Joint Committee on the Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications](#).

¹⁹ CETA Joint Committee on the Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications. [Report on the 9th round of negotiations](#), 16 March 2022.

²⁰ Frequent priority areas were consumer product safety, cosmetic-like drug products, animal welfare, paediatric medicines, and wood pellet boilers. See [Regulatory Cooperation Forum](#) under the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement.

²¹ CETA Joint Committee. [Report of the 3rd Meeting of the CETA Joint Committee](#), December 2022.

4.3. Access to government procurement

The first meeting of the Joint Committee on Government Procurement was held in March 2018.²² The EU and Canada discussed various issues regarding the implementation of the CETA public procurement Chapter. Themes included:

- The requirement to bi-annually adjust CETA threshold values into domestic currency and a possible mechanism for such adjustment.
- Canada informed the EU of the technical updates that need to be made to Annex 19-8 of Canada's market access schedule and both Parties discussed the process for such updates.
- Canada also updated the EU on the ongoing work in developing Canada's Single Point of Access (SPA) for public procurement. Canada was keen on learning from the EU's experience with Tenders Electronic Daily (TED). In this regard, the EU shared its experience with TED and agreed to supply further information as appropriate.

According to the latest report that is publicly available, the report of the 4th meeting of the Joint Committee on Government Procurement from December 2021,²³ the Parties addressed the following issues:

- Canada reported progress regarding its obligation to establish a SPA for all CETA-covered procurement. Canada referred to a new website "CanadaBuys", which was under development.
- The EU informed Canada of its new Internet tool "Access2Procurement", which allows suppliers to find out whether or not a given procurement is covered by CETA.
- Canada provided an update on the state of play regarding CETA coverage of the Canadian Space Agency (CSA).
- The EU informed Canada on the state of play regarding the proposed Foreign Subsidies Regulation and the International Procurement Instrument.

Reacting to the latest TSD-related Civil Society Forum, the Domestic Advisory Group of the EU and Canada jointly stated that CETA constitutes an important platform to facilitate discussion and progress on issues related to sustainable development, including joint efforts to address the climate and biodiversity crises, and strengthen solidarity, multilateralism and cooperation at all levels.²⁴

4.4. Safeguard of public services

As concerns the regulation of public services and Parties' right to regulate, there are no specialised committees nor targeted dialogues addressing these issues. The issues addressed by several Specialised Committees, e.g., on Regulatory Cooperation, Agriculture, Raw Materials, and Trade and Sustainable Development (see below), indicate that both the EU and Canada, have fully retained the right to keep sensitive services public, and decide for themselves how they want services such as healthcare and education to be delivered. Likewise, the documentation of committee work by the EU, Canada and civil society stakeholders does not point to cases in which CETA undermined the Parties' efforts or their right to act to protect human, animal or plant health, or the environment.²⁵

²² CETA Joint Committee on Government Procurement. [Report of the Meeting of the Committee on Government Procurement](#), March 2018.

²³ CETA Joint Committee on Government Procurement. [Report of the Meeting of the Committee on Government Procurement](#), December 2021.

²⁴ [3rd joint statement](#) by the Canadian and European Union Domestic Advisory Groups, established under the Trade and Sustainable Development chapters of the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement.

²⁵ See [CETA Committees and Dialogues](#).

4.5. Trade and sustainable development (TSD) provisions

During the negotiations of CETA, civil society groups have raised several concerns regarding impacts and provisions related to sustainable development. Some of the key issues raised by these groups include the enforceability of CETA's TSD chapter, rights granted to foreign investors under the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) chapter, a potential regulatory race to the bottom due to regulatory cooperation, and the prioritisation of economic interests over environmental and social considerations.

Meeting reports published by CETA's Civil Society Forum²⁶ confirm that stakeholders are closely observing the enforcement of labour and environmental standards, including coherences with international agreements such as the Paris Agreement and International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions. Concerns raised by stakeholders include:

- The need to work towards zero carbon emissions;
- The need to promote environmental and clean technologies and innovation;
- Cooperation towards better economic opportunities for women, indigenous people, and SMEs;
- The need to promote high labour standards and a strengthening of collective bargaining in Canada and the EU; and
- The need to strengthen corporate social responsibility (CSR) and responsible business conduct (RBC).

Canada and the EU have engaged in a number of activities to implement CETA's TSD Chapter. These activities underscored the key role of civil society, indigenous people, and climate change stakeholders, as recognised in the Paris Agreement. The report of the 4th meeting of the CETA Civil Society Forum, held in February 2022²⁷, outlines that the Parties have engaged in joint work on several key TSD aspects, which are underpinned by the TSD Committee joint work plans. The TSD Joint Work Plan for the period 2022-2023²⁸ outlines several initiatives and activities in detail, such as TSD-related data collection efforts (trade and gender, trade and women), discussion and collaboration on clean technologies, carbon pricing, CSR, best practices aiming at SME participation, and the management of chemicals, plastics pollution and circular economy sustainable products. Canada and the EU have also discussed means to improve international cooperation on labour issues, including ways of tackling forced labour and child labour, as well as the continued importance of promoting the freedom of association and collective bargaining.

The CETA DAG called on the EU and Canada to continue work on the sustainability and resilience of supply and value chains including "digitalisation and inclusiveness, just transition, due diligence, decent work, forced and child labour, freedom of association, collective bargaining, right of information and consultation, gender equality and equity, occupational health and safety, quality public services and transparency of environmental, animal, and labour and human rights impacts."²⁹ The DAG encouraged the Parties to continue work on several TSD-related aspects, e.g., regarding greater alignment between trade and respect for the rights of indigenous peoples in the work of CETA, joint efforts on climate change, the global energy transition and other risks that impact trade, labour and supply chains. The DAG also urged the EU and Canada to intensify the cooperation activities with social partners and civil society under the implementation of the fundamental ILO

²⁶ See [joint reports](#) by the CETA Civil Society Forum.

²⁷ CETA Civil Society Forum, [Report of the 4th Meeting](#), 7-8 February 2022. Also see CETA [Joint Committee Recommendations](#) on SMEs, Trade and Gender, and Trade Climate Action and the Paris Agreement.

²⁸ TSD [Joint Work Plan 2022-2023](#).

²⁹ [3rd Joint Statement](#) by the CETA Domestic Advisory Group, 10 March 2022.

conventions, the ILO Tripartite Declaration on multinational enterprises (MNEs) and the OECD Guidelines for MNEs.

5. Thematic priorities of interviews

Recognising the priority areas specified in the technical specifications and following the analysis of key provisions in CETA as well as related literature and data, several priority themes and questions have been identified. Table 5 provides an overview of related questions addressed to relevant stakeholders.

Table 3: Interview questions

Priority area specified in ToR	Questions
(1) Trade in goods (with focus on products that are subject to quotas)	<p>What are your views on the implementation of CETA in the area of agricultural, beverages and food products, e.g., the use of preferences and quotas?</p> <p>What are your views on the implementation of provisions on regulatory cooperation, e.g., in the area of conformity requirements?</p>
(2) Trade in services	<p>EU trade in services with Canada has experienced growth over the past five years. Which aspects of CETA have contributed to this development?</p> <p>What are your views on the implementation of CETA in the area of telecommunication services?</p> <p>What are your views on the implementation of CETA in the area of financial and insurance services?</p> <p>What are your views on the implementation of CETA in the area of e-commerce and digital trade?</p> <p>What are your views on the implementation of CETA regarding the mutual recognition of professional qualifications?</p>
(3) Access to government procurement	<p>Recognising CETA provisions, do you think that European service providers have adequate access to public procurement in Canada?</p> <p>Do businesses have sufficient information about tenders in general and tenders covered by CETA provisions?</p> <p>Do businesses have sufficient clarity about sensitive areas that are exempt from liberalisation?</p>
(4) Safeguard of public services	<p>Concerns have been raised that ISDS provisions could create incentives for foreign investors to challenge measures related to the provision of public services, such as healthcare, education, and utilities. Did the concerns turn out to be valid?</p>
(5) TSD provisions	<p>Has CETA had any negative impact on the right to regulate in the EU or Canada, especially regarding the provision of public services?</p> <p>What are your views on the implementation of the Chapter on Trade and Sustainable Development, particularly labour and environmental protection measures and standards?</p>
Open and cross-cutting questions	<p>In general, how satisfied are you with the implementation of CETA from the point of view of your business / organisation?</p>

Priority area specified in ToR	Questions
	<p>EU trade in goods and services with Canada has seen strong growth over the past five years. Which aspects of CETA have contributed most to this development?</p> <p>In which areas of CETA did the implementation work particularly well for businesses?</p> <p>In which areas would you like to see improvements in the implementation of the rules?</p>

6. Findings of the qualitative stakeholder consultation

35 potentially relevant stakeholders were asked to participate in the consultation. 18 stakeholders indicated an interest to participate in the consultation. 15 of them were interviewed, whereas three stakeholders provided written feedback. The stakeholders consulted³⁰ are:

- the European Consumer Organisation (BEUC), which is the umbrella group for 45 independent consumer organisations from 31 European countries (interview);
- the European Services Forum (ESF), a business association representing parts of the European services sector (interview);
- the Confederation of European Business (Business Europe), a business association representing enterprises of all sizes in the EU and several non-EU European countries (interview);
- the Canadian German Chamber of Industry and Commerce (CGCIC, interview);
- Sociedad Ibérica de Construcciones Eléctricas, Spain (SICE, interview);
- SME United (interview);
- The Canada EU Trade and Investment Association (CEUTIA, interview);
- TRUMPF Germany (interview);
- Consentino, Spain (interview);
- European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC, interview);
- German Association of Farmers (Bauernverband, email);
- European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA, email);
- SpiritsEurope (interview);
- Copa–Cogeca (interview);
- EuroChambres (interview);
- Eurocommerce (interview);
- Netherlands Agricultural and Horticultural Association (LTO, interview); and
- Familia Torres, Spain (email).

The findings are summarised in the following sections.

6.1. General perception of the state of implementation of CETA

All stakeholders consulted indicated that they are generally satisfied with the state of implementation of CETA after the initial five years of its provisional application. Most stakeholders referred to the fact that EU trade in goods and, partly, services had experienced significant growth over the past five years, and several aspects of CETA have contributed to this success. Trade flows demonstrate the positive impact of CETA, with faster growth compared to trade with other countries.

One key point expressed by many stakeholders representing businesses is that CETA has provided stability, certainty, and predictability, which have been particularly valuable given the challenges posed by developments like the COVID-19 pandemic and geopolitical conflicts.

At the same time, many stakeholders highlighted the need for better communication of information about the agreement. CGCIC, EuroChambres, SME United, and Eurocommerce, for example,

³⁰ Other stakeholders invited to participate in the consultation chose not to participate or did not report back. These stakeholders include European Environmental Bureau (EEB), Irish Farmer's Association, Asociación de Jóvenes Agricultores de Cádiz, Confederazione delle Cooperative Italiane, COCERAL, the European Livestock and Meat Trades Union (UECBV), FEDIOL, European Automobile Manufacturers Associations (ACEA), European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC), Polish National Chamber of Commerce, Netherlands-Canada Chamber of Commerce, ICEX Spain, Hex Rays, European Network of National Human Rights Institutions, La Cooperation Agricole France, and Tractebel Belgium.

reported that EU SMEs still face challenges regarding access to information about the benefits of CETA at the national level, including through channels such as trade chambers and associations. Additionally, concerns were raised by many stakeholders about the complexity of rules of origin and the need for simplification.

Most stakeholders criticised the fact that CETA has still not been fully ratified by all EU Member States. It was argued that CETA should be ratified quickly to strengthen and improve the credibility of EU trade policy, especially with a view to the conclusion of the EU-Mercosur agreement, the agreement between the EU and New Zealand, and, potentially, other important trade agreements.

Positive feedback was raised regarding the evolution of bilateral trade flows, both for goods and services trade, and, generally, the work in CETA committees and the regulatory cooperation forum. Confronted with global value chain disruptions during the Covid-19 pandemic, CETA was seen by stakeholders as an anchor of stability for EU businesses trading with Canadian counterparts and vice versa. Furthermore, according to many stakeholders, the like-minded partnership, with CETA being a platform for dialogue, has made cooperation easier, particularly in areas such as sanctions on Russia and Belarus as well as cooperation on trade in minerals and energy commodities.

As concerns general feedback received from stakeholders, BEUC appreciated the positive impacts on consumer protection, stating that there is now a “an administrative cooperation agreement between the EU’s and Canada’s product safety authorities.” The ESF reported that they “are very much happy with the agreement and its implementation, and [that they] don’t see many difficulties.” CGCIC stated that “CETA a great agreement, reducing uncertainties about future trade barriers between Canada and the EU.” CGCIC also stated that Canada, having in place FTAs with all G7 countries now turns out to be “a more reliable partner for the EU when compared to the US.” SME United reported that “CETA is an important FTA for European SMEs.” EuroChambres stated that CETA has been instrumental in supporting SMEs, “resulting in a significant increase in new SME exporters.” EuroChambres also argued that “overall, the agreement has had positive employment effects, and it aligns well with the goals of the European Green Deal, particularly in terms of critical raw materials and environmental services and goods, and, potentially, green procurement.”

At the same time, several stakeholders pointed to the need for improvements in domains that are particularly important to them. SpiritsEurope, for example, highlighted that “CETA is a good platform for cooperation and a means to put pressure on partners to live up to their commitments, which, however, require additional work.” SME United called for “more data on how SMEs can benefit and how they are impacted, and the need to increase awareness of CETA’s benefits for European businesses.” Similarly, CEUTIA stated that “businesses need “more granular information on how CETA works and how they can access Canadian markets. The EU and the Canadian government have recognised this, and, over the last 5 years, there has been a significant production of guides and seminars that not only explain CETA, but also help Canadian businesses understand how to do business in the Single Market and vice versa.”³¹ CEUTIA called for more “transparency in the work of committees” and “improved participation of business stakeholders to avoid exclusive government-to-government negotiations.” CGCIC pointed to the need to address future issues, such as how to define critical minerals and their origins.

A more detailed discussion of feedback received from stakeholders is provided in the sections below.

³¹ According to CEUTIA’s Opening Statement by Mark Camilleri, President, Canada EU Trade and Investment Association To the European Parliament Delegation for Relations with Canada (D-CA), 14 February 2023, submitted to the author of this Briefing Note.

6.2. Trade in goods (with focus on products that are subject to quotas and other trade barriers)

All stakeholders recognised strong bilateral growth in trade in goods. Several stakeholders stated that more work needs to be done to tackle discriminatory regulation and improve regulatory cooperation.

Consumer protection in goods sectors

BEUC particularly welcomed the Bilateral Cooperation Agreement (BCA) between the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA) and the Standards Council of Canada (SCC).³² Based on CETA's chapter on technical barriers to trade and the Protocol on the Mutual Acceptance of the Results of Conformity Assessments, the EU and Canada established the conditions and procedures for cooperation between EA and SCC for technical support of activities aimed at mutual recognition of National Accreditation Bodies (NAB) and accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies operating in the EU and Canada. The Agreement applies to a broad range of goods categories:

- Electrical and electronic equipment, including electrical installations and appliances, and related components;
- Radio and telecommunications terminal equipment;
- Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC);
- Toys;
- Construction products;
- Machinery³³;
- Measuring instruments;
- Hot-water boilers, including related appliances;
- Equipment, machines, apparatus, devices, control components, protection systems, safety devices, controlling devices and regulating devices, and related instrumentation and prevention and detection systems for use in potentially explosive atmospheres (ATEX equipment);
- Equipment for use outdoors as it relates to noise emission in the environment; and
- Recreational craft, including their components.

Stakeholders indicated that there is still potential for enhancing the implementation of CETA concerning matters pertaining to goods. Improvements could focus on expanding the range of industries and regulations addressed within the CETA Committees and the RCF. Business Europe pointed to the need of more cooperation on new technologies and sustainable goods, e.g., carbon capture solutions, emissions register systems, and, generally, green technologies. These issues, according to Business Europe, should also be discussed in the RCF and under the TSD chapter, including the DAG. BEUC called for improved information about the work in CETA committees and statistics on market developments such as competitive pressure and the development of prices, potentially provided by a one-stop (centralised) EU database.

Beef and dairy products

Business Europe reported a positive impact on trade in goods in general, but highlighted that CETA has especially contributed to increased trade in agricultural and food products. CETA's concessions on tariffs and quotas have been stated to be the major driving factor behind increases in trade flows.

³² See European co-operation for Accreditation, [CETA Agreement and Conformity Assessment: Accreditation, a tool to enhance trade between the European Union and Canada](#), 2022.

³³ According to the statistical taxonomy, machinery includes parts and components, including safety components, interchangeable equipment, and assemblies of machines. It also includes interchangeable equipment, and assemblies of machines.

In this context, it was noted that CETA helped moderate the negative trade impacts from Covid-19 pandemic measures, especially when compared to EU trade with non-FTA partners.

Copa-Cogeca and CGCIC stated that EU producers of agricultural commodities, including meat, and foodstuff products benefitted much from the CETA agreement, as demonstrated by rising trade volumes. According to Copa-Cogeca, high-value products are generally performing best, including processed dairy products, processed food, confectionary products, spirits, and olive oil.

By contrast, LTO indicated that the EU's agricultural commodities did not benefit so much from the CETA agreement, as demonstrated by relative trade volumes. Concerning EU imports from Canada, trade volumes were limited "so there was never going to happen much, given that Canadian producers target the US market."

Copa-Cogeca, CGCIC, and LOT highlighted that there was no wave of Canadian meat exports, especially beef, to the EU, which contradicted the fears of some stakeholders at the time of negotiations. In this context, LTO raised the issue of labelling requirements in the EU, "which may prevent Canadian exporters from favouring the EU market over the large and neighbouring US market. Overall, the EU is now a strong net exporter of beef to Canada."

Business Europe reported that initially there were some problems on the part of Canada regarding the management of quotas of dairy products, particularly cheese. CGCIC and LTO pointed to problems with quotas granted to Canadian dairy companies, which at the beginning of the implementation were granted to large dairy traders that did not utilise them as envisaged by the agreement. LTO pointed to the "challenge of implementing quotas for dairy products in a better way." Copa-Cogeca indicated that the "dairy sector still benefitted most from CETA." At the same time, Copa-Cogeca referred to ongoing challenges regarding the "current review of the cheese TRQs, an issue that Canada has been stalling."

With regard to the regulatory framework for trade in agricultural and foodstuff products, LTO highlighted the need to address certain potential market access restrictions, such as "pesticides, antimicrobials, other active ingredients, and growth promoters." Regulatory cooperation should also be extended to address "relevant elements of the EU Green Deal, including the EU Biodiversity Strategy, the EU Sustainable Use Regulation and animal welfare legislation including animal transport rules", with a view "to create more of a regulatory level-playing field."

CGCIC also pointed to that fact that EU exporters of beef products benefitted much more from exports to Canada than their Canadian peers from exports to the EU. This contrasts with the expectations of some stakeholders, who expected a sharp increase in beef imports from Canada to the EU at the time of the negotiations.

Spirits products

SpiritsEurope pointed out that CETA, overall, can be considered a success. "CETA is a platform for dialogue and seems to be working well, but achieving results takes longer than anticipated." The trade association generally welcomes "how discrimination is being addressed by the European Commission and in Canada." It was highlighted that "for the first time they [the EU and Canada] have discussed very specific issues in the Wine and Spirits Working group, especially discrimination at Canadian provincial level". In addition, "the European Commission was directly talking to Canadian provinces to address specific provincial regulations."

SpiritsEurope also pointed to CETA's review clause after five years of implementation, which is a good "way to increase pressure" on both parties to address discriminatory regulation on both sides. Progress relevant for the EU's spirits industry is well-recorded in the "joint progress report on the Wine and Spirits Annex, which is relatively concrete."

SpiritsEurope at the same time stressed that, from the viewpoint of the industry, “no real progress can be seen with regard to many discriminatory policies at the Canadian provincial level, but there may be progress in the future.” The organisation pointed to its trade review of 2022³⁴, which lists a number of discriminatory rules for imported spirits that potentially discriminate against EU exporters. For example, the association pointed to existing discriminations that unfairly favour in-province distillers in Canada such that EU producers of spirits products “cannot compete fairly in the Canadian market.” Several issues related to Canada’s Provincial Liquor Boards, which are responsible for imports, wholesale, and retail, are still unaddressed. Similar concerns related to Liquor Boards were expressed by CGCIC.

In addition, SpiritsEurope argued that several issues with geographical indications (GI) need to be addressed: “There are no sanctions [for GI infringements]. The Canadian government is not properly enforcing the rules.” The challenge for policymakers in the future is to “navigate both GI systems, which are different, to protect businesses in both regions.”

As concerns CETA’s rules, “the provisions should be more explicit, but this may not have been realistic at the time of the negotiations.” SpiritsEurope also pointed to the need for more “granular discussions” in the future. For example, the EU would need to address reductions and discounts for small providers in Canadian provinces, especially crafts distilleries, and open sales channels for spirits similar to those that exist for wine and beer.” Lessons could be learned from “tangible improvements” for European businesses in Ontario and Quebec.

Copa-Cogeca expressed similar concerns, pointing to “some issues with the management of Canada’s enforcement system for geographical indications, which, however, go beyond the wine and spirits industries. It was stated that “it is difficult and costly for SMEs to protect their rights.”

With respect to wine and spirits, Copa-Cogeca also mentioned ongoing problems in some Canadian provinces, e.g., “government support to Canadian producers, such as fiscal reductions, which are seen as trade barriers by EU producers.”

Wine products

Familia Torres, a Spanish premium quality winemaker, referred to marked access limitations due to the existence of distribution monopolies at the Canadian provincial level. The company reported that “it can be rather difficult for a winery to enter the different Canadian markets on their own. Having either a national or provincial agent will help you establish the contact with key monopolies, such as the Société des alcools du Québec (SAQ) [monopoly distributor in Quebec] and the Liquor Control Board of Ontario, in order to get wines listed.” Torres also highlighted that Canadian province “monopolies issue specific product tenders and [therefore] working with an agent will help the winery provide a complete application that meets the need of the tender.” Regarding alternative sales channels, Torres remarked that “some agents focus on private imports, which allows to sell wines directly to restaurants without being listed at the SAQ. However, these agents prefer to have some wines listed at the SAQ for revenue reasons.” Torres stated that export promotion activities could be extended, e.g., trade fair promotion and establishing contacts with Canadian agents. It was remarked that “working with wine institutes can help wineries present their wines to the monopolies and also be included in visits when buyers travel to the wineries.”

Manufactured products

CGCIC pointed to the fact that tariffs for manufactured products were already zero or very low before the implementation of CETA. This was confirmed by TRUMPF, a large machinery manufacturer from Germany. As such, CGCIC and TRUMPF pointed to only low benefits for manufacturers of, e.g., machinery products and electrical equipment. However, CGCIC stressed the positive effects from

³⁴ SpiritsEurope, Trade review 2022, [A spirit of recovery](#), 2022.

regulatory certainty, referring to the fact that businesses on both sides can “now rule out increases in tariffs in the future, improving legal certainty.”

TRUMPF pointed to the benefits from the Registered Exporter system (the REX system), which was adopted under CETA. It allows the company and its suppliers, especially SMEs, to effectively calculate, manage, and declare the origin of goods based on a principle of self-certification. CGCIC, by contrast, argued that rules of origin are still difficult to understand and manage for European SMEs, which, however, is a problem that applies to other FTAs too.

CGCIC stressed that manufacturers do not face any serious impediments regarding market access to Canada. It was argued, however that EU businesses sometimes face problems with qualified professions, such as electricians, which are often regulated at provincial level in Canada. SICE, a transportation communication systems provider from Spain specialising in tunnel and access control systems, pointed to overall positive effects from CETA. The company benefited from zero tariffs and did not experience discriminatory treatment in Canada. However, SICE pointed to issues with the accreditation of European engineers to install systems for customers in Canadian provinces (see below).

Consentino, a mineral hybrid surface manufacturer based in Spain, expressed a positive view on the implementation of CETA. Whereas the company did not point to any negative aspects of the implementation, it remarked that “there is unfair competition from Chinese companies in the Canadian market.” The company stated that there is generally a perceived “mismatch between geopolitical priorities” and that unfair competition from China in manufacturing industries should be countered by an EU treaty with Canada and, potentially, the US too.

Pharmaceutical products

As concerns pharmaceutical productions, EFPIA reported that “in terms of the implementation of CETA provisions, we do not have any outstanding issues, with many of the IP [intellectual property] provisions taking time to manifest their benefits.”

Regulatory cooperation

With regard to regulatory cooperation, Business Europe appreciated the work of CETA joint committees and the RCF. It was stated that all fora allow for serious discussions and the exchange of information about existing and planned regulatory initiatives among like-minded partners.

EuroChambres stated that future regulatory cooperation is considered key, particularly concerning the green transition, carbon pricing, sustainable mining, reuse regulation, green hydrogen, green procurement, and infrastructure financing in Canada. More work on MRAs is also deemed necessary.

CEUTIA said that there have been positive results from regulatory cooperation. However, it remarked that “the model for regulatory cooperation is outdated.” CEUTIA urged for more flexibility in regulatory cooperation, stating that “the EU and Canada should avoid exclusive government-to-government talks” and better take into account “the interests of businesses and the barriers they face in EU-Canada trade and investment.” CEUTIA also pointed to little transparency in the work of committees and working groups, a concern also stated by BEUC.

CEUTIA stressed that “the key challenge for regulatory cooperation is to identify what issues should be addressed.” There may be the need to change the mode of regulatory cooperation under CETA. Future work in committees and working groups should also be based on “targeted surveys and studies that highlight existing regulatory barriers to trade as well as the barriers for tomorrow’s industries, for example, in the field of data regulation.” In addition, “regulatory cooperation under CETA is and must be voluntary. But to ensure that the right choices are made, it is important for there to be sufficient information on the menu of options.” In terms of transparency of process, CEUTIA suggests “a more consistent and detailed communication about the meetings that are held among

regulators. The outcomes of these meetings should be communicated with as much plain language as possible for businesses, especially SMEs, to understand how these dialogues are relevant to their business.”

In terms of practical advice, CEUTIA expressed the idea to appoint a “CETA secretariat” for regulatory cooperation and to set-up an “accountability mechanism at ministerial level for political oversight, because ministers are ultimate decision-makers.” An “RCF accountability mechanism could be installed at the European Parliament.”

6.3. Trade in services

The ESF is generally satisfied with the implementation of CETA in areas that are important to services trade. It was highlighted that overall services trade increased moderately following the provisional application of CETA. At the same time, it was argued that the Covid-19 pandemic temporarily heavily impacted EU-Canada services trade. A steep increase was recorded after 2021 when the global economy was recovering from the pandemic-driven slowdown.

The ESF noted that it is difficult to attribute certain aspects of CETA to rising services trade as businesses tend to anticipate FTAs and start investing and trading already in the period in which FTA negotiations take place. It was reported that EU transport services benefitted a lot from CETA, partly because of rising imports of raw materials and energy commodities from Canada. Business and ICT-related services also experienced growth, but the trade expansion in these sectors was attributed more to global market developments rather than the direct impact of CETA implementation. In that regard, the ESF noted that additional work could be done on rules for digital trade, e.g., on data protection and guaranteeing the free flow of data.

It has been reported that telecom, financial and insurance services have not benefited significantly from CETA, largely because these areas are more driven by investments and less by trade. Concerns were expressed over progress regarding the mutual recognition of professional qualifications. While it was appreciated that regulators agreed in principle on rules for architects, with no final legal decision yet, more progress is needed in other regulated professions. It was noted that procedures tend to be too slow, and the level of cooperation with professional bodies insufficient, indicating a lack of genuine commitment from the EU and Canada to advance in this domain.

CGCIC pointed to the benefits from applying a negative list approach during the negotiations, which was said to result in greater market access in services sectors.

Accreditation of engineers and professional qualifications

SICE pointed to issues with the accreditation of European engineers to install systems for customers in Canadian provinces. The company stated that “we do have to use permits for European engineers to come to Canada, but it could be better because they are limited to one year duration. This could be extended to two or three years.”

In addition, SICE stated that “increasing the age of people that could take advantage would be helpful for industry participants. In addition, the Canadian government could provide more options for entry into Canada.” It was argued that this “would be important for Canada as there is shortage of qualified professionals in Canada. More options on immigration would help a lot.” SICE also pointed to registration requirements enforced by local authorities, including “stamps and seals from authorities in provinces, which give companies like us very limited options to contract experts in Canada, leaving us with no professional staff.” The company urged for “improved modes of certification”. In addition, “recognising workers professional experience instead of requiring them to pass exams would allow for a better functioning of the market and allow skilled people to do the jobs.”

6.4. Access to government procurement

All relevant stakeholders surveyed spoke positively about the implementation of CETA in the area of public procurement. It was highlighted as positive that European companies now have improved market access at different levels of government including Canadian states. It was also welcomed that there is now a publicly accessible register on public procurement in Canada.³⁵ Business Europe, for example stated that, following the application of CETA, “there are now much more EU businesses successfully participating in Canadian tenders.”

CGCIC pointed to two prominent cases suggesting that EU businesses are benefitting from CETA's rules on public procurement. In 2018, Via Rail, a Canadian railway operator, placed a USD 989 million train order with Germany's Siemens instead of Canada's Bombardier. On top of that, Via Rail and Siemens also announced a 15-year technical services and parts agreement valued at USD 356 million. At the time, Canada's Federal Transport Minister, Marc Garneau, has said that the choice to overlook Bombardier and its workforce at the La Pocatiere, Quebec plant is well-founded, as Canada's free trade agreements with the EU and the US prohibit Via Rail from showing preference towards Bombardier when granting contracts.³⁶ Similarly, in 2022, after a tendering process lasting several years, Germany's Deutsche Bahn was appointed as the leading partner in a joint venture with Aecon Group Inc. The contract includes the planning, operation, and maintenance of the regional rail passenger transport in the Canadian metropolis of Toronto and the surrounding province of Ontario. The successful tender resulted in a multi-billion USD order for DB International Operations GmbH in Toronto rail passenger transport.³⁷

³⁵ Government Canada, [government procurement data and archive](#).

³⁶ CBC, [Via Rail places \\$989M train order with Germany's Siemens instead of Bombardier](#), 2018.

³⁷ Deutsche Bahn, [Weiterführende Projektinformationen zu Toronto](#), 2023.

6.5. Safeguard of public services

All stakeholders surveyed except ETUC reported that there have been no problems regarding the protection of public services sectors, including sensitive sectors. EuroChambres, ETF, Business Europe, CGCIC, and Eurocommerce, for example, stated that CETA has not had negative impacts on the right to regulate in the EU or Canada, especially in relation to the provision of sensitive public services. The ESF noted that observers of CETA “often confuse the right to regulate with the safeguards for public services and that these two issues should be treated separately.”

BEUC reported that the fact that there have been no negative cases in the past five years does not mean that there might not be problems in the future. In that regard, concerns were expressed about ISDS regulations in CETA, which are the major reason behind BEUC’s reservations about CETA.

ETUC highlighted that “the way public services were included in the scope of the agreement [CETA], the negative list approach, is not as effective as a positive list to ringfence certain public services.” ETUC thereby referred to criticism raised by the European Public Service Union (EPSU)³⁸ in 2016 about “universal service obligations in public utilities” and “far-reaching investment protection provisions.” According to ETUC, there is now a “ratchet clause locking-in liberalisation, which remains a concern of the trade union movement.” CETA therefore “impacts on the right to regulate in countries.” It was stated that “for Member States it is not possible to reverse liberalisation of sectors that are on the list, including restrictions on universal services obligations, e.g., for utilities.” Additional concerns were raised about the perceived situation “that private investors have greater rights than workers following a government intervention, and that workers cannot sue for forgone future profits.” That imbalance would have to be corrected, according to ETUC.

6.6. Trade and sustainable development (TSD) provisions

Generally, all stakeholders interviewed thought positively about the implementation of the CETA TSD chapter. All stakeholders confirmed that CETA has not affected the right to regulate of both Canada and the EU. Asked about the right to regulate in the context of the TSD chapter, all stakeholders reported that both the EU and Canada continued to develop and enforce a large body of environmental and labour market policies, and other sustainability-related measures. In that regard, Business Europe, EuroChambres, and the ESF, for example, referred to the EU’s Green Deal Package, the Farm to Fork Strategy, the Deforestation-free products regulation, and the Directive on corporate sustainability due diligence.

Business Europe highlighted that the EU and Canada work very well in the CETA joint committees and the DAG. It was stressed that both jurisdictions share common values and have a strong tradition of involving civil society stakeholders. Referring to the work in the EU-Canada DAG, EuroChambres reported that cooperation efforts on labour standards and environmental protection are generally viewed as “being on the right track.” EuroChambres also reported that “although there may be differences in enforcement approaches, both the EU and Canada are like-minded partners and work together to address remaining gaps. By doing so, they can incentivise other countries to follow similar standards.”

Similar views were expressed by BEUC, which, however, noted that there should be improvements in how CETA joint committees and the RCF provide information to civil society stakeholders. BEUC suggested the setting-up of a notification procedure on the work of CETA joint committees or the establishment of a single point of access to committee work files and relevant documentation. BEUC also expressed concerns regarding the lengthy duration taken by numerous committees to publish reports. Business Europe stated that more work could be done towards cooperation on issues where

³⁸ EPSU, [EPSU calls for the rejection of CETA because it's a bad deal for citizens](#), 2016.

regulation is not yet adopted or where new regulation is evolving on both sides and globally, e.g., environmental standards, emission trading, the quantification of emissions, carbon capture, and, generally, trade in environmental goods, services, and green technologies.

ETUC expressed critical views about the protection of workers in the EU and Canada. ETUC referred to a joint statement it made together with the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC)³⁹, in which both organisations criticised the secrecy of the negotiations, the lack of legally binding provisions, and the lack of effective enforcement of labour provisions. ETUC said that “CETA is not capable of being used to address violations of labour standards.” In addition, despite the review clause in the Joint Interpretative Instrument, ETUC remarked that “we have not seen a review of TSD provisions yet.”

ETUC is particularly concerned about the state of collective bargaining in Canada. Concerns are particularly related to “trade union busting” in Canada, reflected by an “increase of obstacles in the registration of trade unions, as legislation in Canada does not allow unions to register as representative bodies.” ETUC also pointed to the Global Rights Index⁴⁰ published by the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), indicating that the registration of trade unions is rather difficult in Canada. ETUC highlighted that there is “a consensus view in the DAG about the need for improvements of the chapter on labour and the need to address labour rights issues and violations.”

With respect to improvements, the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) was referred to as the “gold standard” for labour rights and their enforcement. For the EU, aligning CETA provisions with the European Commission’s new trade policy principles, the new TSD approach to trade agreements⁴¹, or USMCA would be a potential solution.

³⁹ [ETUC and CLC, ETUC and CLC statement on CETA: more democracy for a fair and progressive trade agenda](#), 2016.

⁴⁰ ITUC, [2023 ITUC Global Rights Index](#), 2023.

⁴¹ European Commission, [Communication](#) on the power of trade partnerships: together for green and just economic growth, 22 June 2022.

7. Conclusions

This stakeholder consultation report delved into crucial areas addressed during CETA negotiations and its ratification process, highlighting aspects that have presented challenges or remained underutilised. These priority areas encompass trade in goods, with a particular emphasis on products subject to quotas like beef and cheese, trade in services, access to government procurement, public services, and the significance of trade and sustainable development provisions.

Trade data reveals that in five years of provisional application CETA has yielded positive results for EU-Canada trade in goods, resulting from reduced or eliminated tariffs and lower non-tariff barriers, thus benefiting businesses and consumers in both regions. Furthermore, measures aiming at promoting market access across various service sectors have contributed to increased EU services trade with Canada.

Stakeholder feedback from businesses and civil society generally reflects satisfaction with CETA's implementation after its initial five-years of provisional application. Stakeholders welcome the expansion of bilateral trade in goods and services, as well as collaborative efforts within various CETA committees, working groups, and advisory bodies. While stakeholders acknowledge significant improvements in trade and sustainable development, challenges persist, including the need for more concrete progress in regulatory cooperation, increased transparency in committee activities, greater business engagement to reduce exclusive government-to-government discussions, and enhanced participation of civil society, particularly in matters related to labour and environmental protection.

Stakeholders raised concerns about the incomplete ratification of CETA. They argue that swift ratification is essential to bolster and enhance the EU's trade policy credibility, particularly as it relates to other significant trade agreements such as the EU-Mercosur agreement, the deal with New Zealand, and potential future trade agreements.

REFERENCES

- 3rd joint statement by the Canadian and European Union Domestic Advisory Groups, established under the Trade and Sustainable Development chapters of the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement, available at https://www.eesc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/files/joint_statement_eu_canada_dag_to_dag_0.pdf.
- 3rd Joint Statement by the CETA Domestic Advisory Group, 10 March 2022, available at <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/documents/joint-declaration/joint-statement-4th-meeting-eu-canada-joint-dags>.
- CBC, Via Rail places \$989M train order with Germany's Siemens instead of Bombardier, 2018, available at <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/via-rail-german-siemens-bombardier-contract-1.4942956>.
- CETA Civil Society Forum, Report of the 4th Meeting, 7-8 February 2022, available at <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/09242a36-a438-40fd-a7af-fe32e36cbd0e/library/57864e23-03c4-48a1-b5ec-70ad8f067408/details>.
- CETA Committees and Dialogues, available at <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/09242a36-a438-40fd-a7af-fe32e36cbd0e/library/205dba99-7521-44fc-82bb-789155c58138>.
- CETA Joint Committee on Government Procurement. Report of the Meeting of the Committee on Government Procurement, March 2018, available at https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/09242a36-a438-40fd-a7af-fe32e36cbd0e/library/283ba54c-2a7f-4578-a99f-d33b75661061?p=1&n=10&sort=modified_DESC.
- CETA Joint Committee on Government Procurement. Report of the Meeting of the Committee on Government Procurement, December 2021, available at https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/09242a36-a438-40fd-a7af-fe32e36cbd0e/library/283ba54c-2a7f-4578-a99f-d33b75661061?p=1&n=10&sort=modified_DESC.
- CETA Joint Committee Recommendations on SMEs, Trade and Gender, and Trade Climate Action and the Paris Agreement, available at <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/09242a36-a438-40fd-a7af-fe32e36cbd0e/library/d175fedf-04d5-4446-aa76-5c0547d200cev>.
- CETA Joint Committee. Report of the 3rd Meeting of the CETA Joint Committee, December 2022, available at <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/09242a36-a438-40fd-a7af-fe32e36cbd0e/library/6fc49aca-f7c0-4a45-8fe9-d0c3f531a164/details>.
- CEUTIA, 'Opening Statement by Mark Camilleri, President, Canada EU Trade and Investment Association To the European Parliament Delegation for Relations with Canada (D-CA)', 14 February 2023, submitted to the author of this Briefing Note.
- Deutsche Bahn, Weiterführende Projektinformationen zu Toronto, 2023, available at https://io.deutschebahn.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/22-04-20_Onepager_Toronto_DE.pdf.
- EPSU, EPSU calls for the rejection of CETA because it's a bad deal for citizens, 2016, available at <https://www.epsu.org/article/epsu-calls-rejection-ceta-because-its-bad-deal-citizens>.
- ETUC and CLC, ETUC and CLC statement on CETA: more democracy for a fair and progressive trade agenda, 2016, available at <https://www.etuc.org/en/pressrelease/etuc-and-clc-statement-ceta-more-democracy-fair-and-progressive-trade-agenda>.
- European Commission, 'CETA chapter by chapter', 2023, available at https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/eu-trade-relationships-country-and-region/countries-and-regions/canada/eu-canada-agreement/ceta-chapter-chapter_en.
- European Commission, 'CETA: Evolution of key economic indicators', Chief Economist Note, DG Trade, March 2023, available at <https://circabc.europa.eu/rest/download/faff658b-3e97-4784-a869-3025888bdec4>.
- European Commission, 'Communication on the power of trade partnerships: together for green and just economic growth', 22 June 2022, available at <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52022DC0409>.

European Commission, EU-Canada agreement: Committees and Dialogues, available at https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/eu-trade-relationships-country-and-region/countries-and-regions/canada/eu-canada-agreement/committees-and-dialogues_en.

Government Canada, government procurement data and archive, available at <https://open.canada.ca/data/en/dataset/53753f06-8b28-42d7-89f7-04cd014323b0>.

Government of Canada, CETA@5 Delivering trade benefits during unprecedented times, 2022, available at <https://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/economist-economiste/analysis-analyse/benefits-ceta5-avantages.aspx?lang=eng>.

ITUC, 2023 ITUC Global Rights Index, 2023, available at <https://files.mutualcdn.com/ituc/files/ITUC-Global-Rights-Index-2023.pdf>.

Joint Interpretative Instrument on the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada and the European Union and its Member States, 2017, available at https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L_.2017.011.01.0003.01.ENG&toc=OJ%3AL%3A2017%3A011%3ATOC.

Joint reports by the CETA Civil Society Forum, available at <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/09242a36-a438-40fd-a7af-fe32e36cbd0e/library/57864e23-03c4-48a1-b5ec-70ad8f067408/details>.

SpiritsEurope, Trade review 2022, a spirits of recovery, 2022, available at [https://spirits.eu/upload/files/publications/SpiritEU-Trade-review-2022-web-22.08\(1\).pdf](https://spirits.eu/upload/files/publications/SpiritEU-Trade-review-2022-web-22.08(1).pdf).

TSD Joint Work Plan 2022-2023, available at <https://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/ceta-aecg/tsd-work-plan-cdd-plan-travail-2022.aspx?lang=eng>.

The European Parliament's Committee on International Trade is currently scrutinising implementation of the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) through a dedicated report. This stakeholder consultation report offers evidence in support of the committee's work on the implementation report. The stakeholder consultation report focuses on key areas that have garnered significant attention throughout the CETA negotiations and the ratification process. It also discusses provisions that have posed challenges or remained under-utilised.

Trade data indicate that CETA has had a positive impact on EU-Canada trade in goods and services. Stakeholders, including businesses and civil society, generally express satisfaction with CETA's implementation after the initial 5-year provisional application period, noting growth in bilateral trade, positive public procurement outcomes, and the absence of major concerns in protecting public service sectors. However, some challenges remain, such as the need for more concrete progress in regulatory cooperation, increased transparency in committee activities, greater business involvement to minimise government-to-government discussions, and improved engagement of civil society, particularly regarding labour and environmental protection issues.

Stakeholders have also raised concerns about the incomplete ratification of CETA. Swift ratification is essential to bolster and enhance the EU's trade policy credibility, not least in view of other significant trade agreements, such as the EU-Mercosur agreement, the deal with New Zealand, and potential future trade agreements with other countries.

This is a publication of the Ex-Post Evaluation Unit
EPRS | European Parliamentary Research Service

This document is prepared for, and addressed to, the Members and staff of the European Parliament as background material to assist them in their parliamentary work. The content of the document is the sole responsibility of its author(s) and any opinions expressed herein should not be taken to represent an official position of the Parliament.