

*This Trade Summary provides an overview of WTO dispute settlement decisions and panel activities, and EU decisions and measures on commercial policy, customs policy and external relations, for the second quarter of 2018.*

## I. WTO

### 1. Dispute Settlement

#### **China files WTO complaint over the United States' tariff measures on Chinese goods**

China has requested consultations with the United States under the WTO's Dispute Settlement Mechanism regarding the United States' tariff measures on certain Chinese goods which would allegedly be implemented through Section 301-310 of the US Trade Act of 1974.

([WTO Press Release](#), April 5, 2018)

#### **China initiates WTO dispute complaint against US tariffs on steel, aluminium products**

China has requested WTO dispute consultations with the United States concerning certain US duties imposed on imports of steel and aluminium products.

([WTO Press Release](#), April 9, 2018)

#### **EU initiates new WTO compliance proceedings over Airbus subsidies**

The European Union has requested WTO dispute consultations with the United States to address the EU's claim that the EU and its Member States have complied with the WTO ruling on subsidies to Airbus which was adopted by the Dispute Settlement Body on May 28, 2018.

([WTO Press Release](#), June 6, 2018, 2018)

#### **European Union files WTO complaint against China's protection of intellectual property rights**

The European Union has requested WTO consultations with China concerning certain Chinese measures which the EU alleges are inconsistent with China's obligations under the WTO's Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs).

([WTO Press Release](#), June 6, 2018; [Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/4027, June 1, 2018)

#### **Korea initiates WTO dispute complaints against US safeguard duties on washers, solar cells**

Korea has requested WTO dispute consultations with the United States regarding US safeguard duties imposed on imports of large residential washers and crystalline silicon photovoltaic products. The requests were circulated to WTO members on May 16, 2018.

([WTO Press Release](#), May 16, 2018)

#### **India initiates WTO dispute complaint against US steel, aluminium duties**

India has requested WTO dispute consultations with the United States regarding US duties on certain imported steel and aluminium products.

([WTO Press Release](#), May 23, 2018)

#### **EU, Canada initiate WTO dispute complaints against US steel, aluminium duties**

The European Union and Canada have requested WTO dispute consultations with the United States regarding US duties on certain imported steel and aluminium products.

([WTO Press Release](#), June 6, 2018)

#### **Korea files appeal against WTO panel ruling regarding Japanese food import restrictions**

Korea filed an appeal on April 9, 2018, against a WTO panel report in the case brought by Japan in "Korea - Import Bans, and Testing and Certification Requirements for Radionuclides" (DS495).

([WTO Press Release](#), April 9, 2018)

#### **Mexico initiates WTO dispute complaint against US steel, aluminum duties**

Mexico has requested WTO dispute consultations with the United States regarding US duties on certain imported steel and aluminum products.

([WTO Press Release](#), June 7, 2018)

#### **Norway initiates WTO dispute complaint against US steel, aluminum duties**

Norway has requested WTO dispute consultations with the United States regarding US duties on certain imported steel and aluminum products.

([WTO Press Release](#), June 19, 2018)



**Japan initiates WTO dispute complaint against Korean duties on steel**

Japan has requested WTO dispute consultations with Korea regarding Korean anti-dumping duties levied on stainless steel bars from Japan.

([WTO Press Release](#), June 21, 2018)

**US files appeal against compliance panel ruling in countervailing duty dispute with China**

On April 27, 2018, the United States filed an appeal against a WTO compliance panel report in a case brought by China in “United States - Countervailing Duty Measures on Certain Products from China - Recourse to Article 21.5 of the DSU by China” (DS437).

([WTO Press Release](#), April 30, 2018)

**Japan files appeal against panel ruling regarding Korean duties on pneumatic valves**

On May 28, 2018, Japan filed an appeal regarding a WTO panel report in the case brought by Japan in “Korea - Anti-Dumping Duties on Pneumatic Valves from Japan” (DS504).

([WTO Press Release](#), May 29, 2018)

**Indonesia launches safeguard investigation on ceramic flags and paving, hearth or wall tiles; ceramic mosaic cubes and the like**

On April 3, 2018, Indonesia notified the WTO’s Committee on Safeguards that it initiated on March 29, 2018 a safeguard investigation on ceramic flags and paving, hearth or wall tiles; ceramic mosaic cubes and the like, whether or not on a backing.

([WTO Press Release](#), April 3, 2018)

**South Africa launches safeguard investigation on “Other screws fully threaded with hexagon heads made of steel”**

On April 23, 2018, South Africa notified the WTO’s Committee on Safeguards that it initiated on April 20, 2018, a safeguard investigation on “other screws fully threaded with hexagon heads made of steel.”

([WTO Press Release](#), April 23, 2018)

**Turkey launches safeguard investigation on iron and steel products**

On May 2, 2018, Turkey notified the WTO’s Committee on Safeguards that it initiated on April 27, 2018, a safeguard investigation on iron and steel products.

([WTO Press Release](#), May 2, 2018)

**PANELS ESTABLISHED****WTO establishes two panels to rule on US lumber duties**

At the request of Canada, the WTO’s Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) agreed on April 9, 2018, to establish two panels to examine Canada’s complaints regarding anti-dumping and countervailing duties imposed by the United States on imports of Canadian softwood lumber.

([WTO Press Release](#), April 9, 2018)

**WTO establishes panels to rule on Australian paper, US steel duties**

At the request of Indonesia, the WTO’s Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) agreed on April 27, 2018, to establish a panel to examine Australia’s anti-dumping duties imposed on imports of A4 copy paper from Indonesia. The DSB also agreed to a request from India for the establishment of a panel to determine whether the United States complied with an earlier ruling regarding US countervailing measures on imported hot-rolled carbon steel flat products from India.

([WTO Press Release](#), April 27, 2018)

**Panels established to rule on Indian export measures, US duties**

At its meeting on May 28, 2018, the WTO’s Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) agreed to a request from the United States for the establishment of a dispute panel to examine certain alleged export subsidy measures in India. The DSB also agreed to a request from Korea for a dispute panel to examine US anti-dumping and countervailing duties on certain products from Korea and the US use of “facts available.”

([WTO Press Release](#), May 28, 2018)

**PANEL REPORTS ISSUED****WTO issues panel report regarding Korean duties on pneumatic valves from Japan**

On April 12, 2018, the WTO circulated the panel report in the case brought by Japan in “Korea - Anti-Dumping Duties on Pneumatic Valves from Japan” (DS504).

([WTO Press Release](#), April 12, 2018)

**WTO issues panel report on tobacco plain packaging requirements**

On June 28, 2018, the WTO circulated the panel report in the cases brought by Honduras, the Dominican

Republic, Cuba, and Indonesia in “Australia - Certain Measures Concerning Trademarks, Geographical Indications and Other Plain Packaging Requirements Applicable to Tobacco Products and Packaging” (DS435, DS441, DS458, and DS467).

([WTO Press Release](#), June 28, 2018)

## **APPELLATE BODY**

### **Appellate Body issues report on EU compliance in Airbus dispute**

On May 15, 2018, the WTO’s Appellate Body issued its report in the case “European Communities and Certain Member States - Measures Affecting Trade in Large Civil Aircraft - Recourse to Article 21.5 of the DSU” (DS316).

([WTO Press Release](#), May 15, 2018; [Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/3782, May 15, 2018)

### **Appellate Body issues report regarding EU subsidy duties on PET from Pakistan**

On May 16, 2018, the WTO Appellate Body issued its report in the case “European Union - Countervailing Duties on Certain Polyethylene Terephthalate from Pakistan” (DS486).

([WTO Press Release](#), May 16, 2018)

## **2. Other Developments**

### **TRADE POLICY REVIEWS**

#### **Montenegro**

([WTO Press Release](#), April 11 and 13, 2018; [Secretariat Report](#) and [Government Report](#), March 7, 2018)

#### **Guinea**

([WTO Press Release](#), May 29 and 31, 2018; [Secretariat Report](#) and [Government Report](#), April 24, 2018)

#### **Mauritania**

([WTO Press Release](#), May 29 and 31, 2018; [Secretariat Report](#) and [Government Report](#), April 24, 2018)

#### **Colombia**

([WTO Press Release](#), June 12 and 14, 2018; [Secretariat Report](#) and [Government Report](#), April 24, 2018)

#### **Norway**

([WTO Press Release](#), June 18 and 20, 2018; [Secretariat Report](#) and [Government Report](#), April 23, 2018)

#### **Uruguay**

([WTO Press Release](#), June 27 and 29, 2018; [Secretariat Report](#) and [Government Report](#), May 23, 2018)

### **WTO ACCESSIONS**

#### **Members show sustained engagement in Belarus accession process**

At the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Party on the Accession of Belarus held on May 15, 2018, WTO members stressed their commitment to working towards the country’s WTO accession and urged Minsk to take appropriate policy decisions in order to make a decisive push forward. The meeting was the third since the resumption of the Working Party work in January 2017.

([WTO Press Release](#), May 15, 2018)

## **II. EU Commercial Policy**

### **1. Anti-dumping and Anti-subsidy**

#### **EU COURTS**

#### **Bicycles consigned from Cambodia, Pakistan, and the Philippines**

The General Court dismissed the appeal against Commission Implementing Regulation 2015/776 extending the definitive anti-dumping duty imposed by Council Regulation 502/2013 on imports of bicycles originating in China to imports of bicycles consigned from Cambodia, Pakistan, and the Philippines, whether declared as originating in Cambodia, Pakistan, and the Philippines or not.

(Case T-462/15 *Asia Leader International (Cambodia) v. Commission*, [judgment](#) of April 19, 2018)

#### **Tartaric acid originating in China**

The General Court: (i) annulled Council Implementing Regulation 626/2012 amending Council Implementing Regulation 349/2012 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty, and (ii) maintained the anti-dumping duty imposed by Implementing Regulation 626/2012 as regards Ninghai Organic Chemical Factory’s goods, until the Commission and the Council have adopted the measures necessary to comply with this judgment.

(Case T-431/12 *Distillerie Bonollo and Others v. Council*, [judgment](#) of May 3, 2018)

**Stainless steel cold-rolled flat products originating in China and Taiwan**

The General Court dismissed the appeal against Commission Implementing Regulation 2015/1429 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty.

(Case T-675/15 *Shanxi Taigang Stainless Steel v. Commission*, [judgment](#) of April 23, 2018)

**Certain polyethylene terephthalate**

The Court of Justice dismissed the appeal against the General Court's judgment of April 5, 2017, by which the Court dismissed the applicants' claims for compensation for the damage which they allegedly suffered on account of the illegality of Council Implementing Decision 2013/226 rejecting the proposal for a Council implementing regulation imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of certain polyethylene terephthalate originating in India, Taiwan, and Thailand following an expiry review pursuant to Article 11(2) of Regulation 1225/2009 and terminating the expiry review proceeding concerning imports of certain polyethylene terephthalate originating in Indonesia and Malaysia.

(Case C-363/17 P *Equipolymers and Others*, [judgment](#) of June 7, 2018)

**Silicon metal**

Hearing in the action seeking compensation for the damage allegedly suffered as a result of the request by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) that the authorities of the Member States recover anti-dumping duties for all consignments of silicon exported from Taiwan to the EU, in accordance with Council Regulation 398/2004 and Council Implementing Regulation 467/2010.

(Case T-631/16 *Remag Metallhandel and Jaschinsky v. Commission*, report for the hearing)

**Certain prepared or preserved sweetcorn in kernels originating in Thailand**

Appeal against the General Court's judgment of December 14, 2017, in which the Court annulled Council Implementing Regulation 307/2014 amending Implementing Regulation 875/2013 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty following an interim review pursuant of Article 11(3) of Regulation 1225/2009.

(Case C-144/18 P *River Kwai International Food Industry*, [OJ 2018 C 142/37](#))

**Certain footwear with uppers of leather originating in China and Vietnam**

i Order by the President of the Court of Justice removing from the register the reference for a preliminary ruling from a Dutch court seeking guidance from the Court of Justice on the validity of Commission Implementing Regulation 2016/1647 and Commission Implementing Regulation 2016/1731.

(Case C-631/16 X, [order](#) of April 17, 2018, available in French)

ii Appeals against Commission Implementing Regulation 2017/2232 re-imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty and collecting definitively the provisional duty imposed on imports of certain footwear with uppers of leather originating in China and Vietnam and produced by certain exporting producers in China and Vietnam and implementing the judgment of the Court of Justice in Joined Cases C-659/13 and C-34/14.

(Case T-126/18 *Van Haren Schoenen v. Commission*, [OJ 2018 C 142/65](#); Case T-127/18 *Cortina and FLA Europe v. Commission*, [OJ 2018 C 142/66](#); Case T-157/18 *Caprice Schuhproduktion v. Commission*, [OJ 2018 C 142/69](#); Case T-124/18 *Wendel and Others v. Commission*, [OJ 2018 C 152/45](#); Case T-130/18 *adidas International Trading and Others v. Commission*, [OJ 2018 C 152/47](#); Case T-131/18 *Deichmann v. Commission*, [OJ 2018 C 152/48](#); Case T-132/18 *Roland v. Commission*, [OJ 2018 C 152/49](#); Case T-141/18 *Deichmann-Shoes UK v. Commission*, [OJ 2018 C 152/50](#); Case T-142/18 *Buffalo - Boots v. Commission*, [OJ 2018 C 152/52](#))

iii Order by the President of the General Court removing from the register the appeal against Commission Implementing Regulation 2016/223 establishing a procedure for assessing certain market economy treatment and individual treatment claims made by exporting producers from China and Vietnam, and implementing the judgment of the Court of Justice in Joined Cases C-659/13 and C-34/14.

(Case T-230/16 *C & J Clark International v. Commission*, [order](#) of May 16, 2018)

### **Certain cast iron articles originating in China and India**

Appeal against Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/140 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty and collecting definitively the provisional duty imposed on imports of certain cast iron articles originating in China and terminating the investigation on imports of certain cast iron articles originating in India.

(Case T-254/18 *China Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Machinery and Electronic Products and Others v. Commission*, [OJ 2018 C 211/28](#))

### **OTHER EU INSTITUTIONS**

#### **Trade Defense Instruments (TDI)**

- i The Council adopted its position on a new legal framework against unfair trade competition. ([Council Press Release](#), April 16, 2018; [Commission Daily News](#), April 16, 2018; [Council position](#), April 3, 2018; [Draft statement](#) of the Council's reasons, April 4, 2018)
- ii Commission communication pursuant to Article 294(6) TFEU concerning the position of the Council on the adoption of a regulation amending Regulation 2016/1036 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the EU and Regulation 2016/1037 on protection against subsidized imports from countries not members of the EU. ([COM 2018/191](#), April 17, 2018)
- iii Recommendation for second reading on the Council position at first reading with a view to the adoption of a regulation amending Regulation 2016/1036 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the EU and Regulation 2016/1037 on protection against subsidized imports from countries not members of the EU. ([Recommendation for second reading](#), May 23, 2018)
- iv The European Parliament adopted a legislative resolution on the Council position at first reading with a view to the adoption of a regulation amending Regulation 2016/1036 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the EU and Regulation 2016/1037 on protection against subsidized imports from countries not members of the EU.

([EP Press Release](#), May 30, 2018; [EP Press Release](#), May 30, 2018; [Resolution](#), May 30, 2018)

- v Regulation amending Regulation 2016/1036 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the EU and Regulation 2016/1037 on protection against subsidized imports from countries not members of the EU. ([Consolidated text](#) of the regulation, May 30, 2018)
- vi Position 1/2018 of the Council at first reading with a view to the adoption of a regulation amending Regulation 2016/1036 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the EU and Regulation 2016/1037 on protection against subsidized imports from countries not members of the EU. ([OJ 2018 C 184/1](#); Statement of the Council's reasons: [OJ 2018 C 184/19](#))
- vii Regulation 2018/825 amending Regulation 2016/1036 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the EU and Regulation 2016/1037 on protection against subsidized imports from countries not members of the EU. ([OJ 2018 L 143/1](#))

#### **Ceramic tableware and kitchenware originating in China**

- i Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/554 amending Council Implementing Regulation 412/2013 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty and collecting definitively the provisional duty. ([OJ 2018 L 92/4](#))
- ii Notice of initiation of an expiry review of the anti-dumping measures. ([OJ 2018 C 167/6](#))

#### **Steel ropes and cables originating in China and consigned from Morocco and Korea**

Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/607 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of steel ropes and cables originating in China as extended to imports of steel ropes and cables consigned from Morocco and Korea, whether declared as originating in these countries or not, following an expiry review pursuant to Article 11(2) of Regulation 2016/1036. ([Commission Daily News](#), April 20, 2018; [OJ 2018 L 101/40](#))



**Electric bicycles originating in China**

Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/671 making imports of electric bicycles originating in China subject to registration.

[\(OJ 2018 L 113/4\)](#)

**Certain seamless pipes and tubes of iron or steel originating in China**

Commission Implementing Decision 2018/928 terminating the re-opening of the investigation concerning the judgments in joined cases C-186/14 P and C-193/14 P in relation to Council Regulation 926/2009 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty and collecting definitively the provisional duty imposed on imports of certain seamless pipes and tubes of iron or steel originating in China and Commission Implementing Regulation 2015/2272 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of certain seamless pipes and tubes of iron or steel originating in China following an expiry review pursuant to Article 11(2) of Council Regulation 1225/2009.

[\(OJ 2018 L 164/51\)](#)

**Certain pneumatic tires, new or retreaded, of rubber, of a kind used for buses or lorries, with a load index exceeding 121, originating in China**

Commission Regulation 2018/683 imposing a provisional anti-dumping duty and amending Implementing Regulation 2018/163.

[\(OJ 2018 L 116/8\)](#)

**Tartaric acid originating in China**

Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/921 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty following an expiry review pursuant to Article 11(2) of Regulation 2016/1036.

[\(OJ 2018 L 164/14\)](#)

**Certain open mesh fabrics of glass fibers**

i Notice of initiation concerning the anti-dumping measures applicable to imports of certain open mesh fabrics of glass fibers originating in China, as extended to imports consigned from India, whether declared as originating in India or not.

[\(OJ 2018 C 171/10\)](#)

ii Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/788 amending Implementing Regulation 2017/1993 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of certain open mesh fabrics of glass fibers originating in China as extended to imports of

certain open mesh fabrics of glass fibers consigned from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Taiwan, and Thailand, whether declared as originating in these countries or not, following an expiry review pursuant to Article 11(2) of Regulation 2016/1036.

[\(OJ 2018 L 134/5\)](#)

**Certain rainbow trout originating in Turkey**

Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/823 terminating the partial interim review of the countervailing measures.

[\(OJ 2018 L 139/14\)](#)

**Ferro-silicon originating in Egypt and Ukraine**

Council Implementing Decision 2018/824 terminating the anti-dumping proceeding.

[\(OJ 2018 L 139/25\)](#)

**Bicycles originating in China**

Notice of initiation of an expiry review of the anti-dumping measures.

[\(OJ 2018 C 189/18\)](#)

**Certain seamless tubes and pipes originating in, inter alia, Ukraine**

Notice of initiation of a partial interim review of the anti-dumping measures applicable.

[\(OJ 2018 C 159/18\)](#)

**Threaded tube or pipe cast fittings, of malleable cast iron, originating in China and Thailand**

Notice of initiation of an expiry review of the anti-dumping measures applicable.

[\(OJ 2018 C 162/11\)](#)

**Tubes and pipes of ductile cast iron (also known as spheroidal graphite cast iron) originating in India**

i Notice of reopening the anti-dumping investigation.

[\(OJ 2018 C 151/57\)](#)

ii Notice of initiation of a partial interim review of the anti-dumping measures.

[\(OJ 2018 C 157/3\)](#)

**Certain polyethylene terephthalate originating in India**

Notice of initiation of an expiry review of the countervailing measures.

[\(OJ 2018 C 173/9\)](#)

**Solar glass originating in Malaysia**

Notice of initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding.

[\(OJ 2018 C 174/8\)](#)

### Crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules and key components (*i.e.*, cells) originating in China

Notice concerning a change of the name of a company subject to the duty rate for cooperating non-sampled companies.

([OJ 2018 C 199/18](#))

### Manganese dioxides originating in South Africa

Notice of the impending expiry of certain anti-dumping measures.

([OJ 2018 C 203/17](#))

### Biodiesel

i Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/756 making imports of biodiesel originating in Argentina subject to registration.

([OJ 2018 L 128/9](#))

ii Notice concerning the General Court's judgments of September 15, 2016, in Cases T-80/14, T-111/14 to T-121/14, and T-139/14 regarding Council Implementing Regulation 1194/2013 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty and collecting definitively the provisional duty imposed on Argentinian and Indonesian imports of biodiesel, and following the recommendations and rulings adopted by the Dispute Settlement Body of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in disputes DS473 and DS480.

([OJ 2018 C 181/5](#))

### Hot-rolled steel sheet piles originating in China

Notice of initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding.

([OJ 2018 C 177/6](#))

### Tungsten electrodes originating in China

Notice of initiation of an expiry review of the anti-dumping measures.

([OJ 2018 C 186/13](#))

## 2. Trade Barriers Regulation

### Trade barriers

The Commission published the annual report on trade and investment barriers.

([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/4286, June 26, 2018; [Report](#))

## 3. Generalized System of Preferences

### Generalized System of Preferences (GSP)

i The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of an agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the EU and Switzerland on the cumulation of origin between the EU, Switzerland, Norway, and Turkey in the framework of the GSP.

([Resolution](#), May 29, 2018)

ii The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of an agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the EU and Norway on the cumulation of origin between the EU, Switzerland, Norway, and Turkey in the framework of the GSP.

([Resolution](#), May 29, 2018)

iii Notice to importers concerning the application of the Registered Exporter System within the framework of the generalized system of preferences of the EU.

([OJ 2018 C 222/9](#))

## 4. Sanctions

### EU COURTS

#### Congo

i Order by the President of the General Court removing from the register the appeal against Council Implementing Regulation 2017/904 implementing Article 9(2) of Regulation 1183/2005. (Case T-586/17 *Kande Mupompa v. Council*, [order](#) of April 17, 2018, available in French)

ii Appeals against Council Decision (CFSP) 2017/2282 amending Decision 2010/788/CFSP. (Case T-163/18 *Amisi Kumba v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/60](#); Case T-164/18 *Kampete v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/61](#); Case T-165/18 *Kahimbi Kasagwe v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/61](#); Case T-166/18 *Ilunga Kampete v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/62](#); Case T-167/18 *Kanyama v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/63](#); Case T-168/18 *Numbi v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/63](#); Case T-169/18 *Kibelisa Ngambasai v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/64](#); Case T-170/18 *Kande Mupompa v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/64](#); Case T-171/18 *Boshab v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/65](#); Case T-172/18 *Akili Mundos v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/65](#); Case

T-173/18 *Ramazani Shadary v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/66](#); Case T-174/18 *Mutondo v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/67](#); Case T-175/18 *Ruhorimbere v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/67](#); Case T-176/18 *Mende Omalanga v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/68](#); Case T-177/18 *Kazembe Musonda v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/68](#))

### Iran

- i Opinion by the Advocate General Tanchev advising the Court of Justice to dismiss the first ground of the appeal against the General Court's judgment of September 14, 2016, by which the Court dismissed the appeal against Council Decision (CFSP) 2015/236 amending Decision 2010/413/CFSP, and Council Implementing Regulation 2015/230 implementing Regulation 267/2012. (Case C-600/16 P *National Iranian Tanker Company v. Council*, Advocate General [opinion](#) of April 11, 2018)
- ii Appeal against the General Court's judgment of December 13, 2017, dismissing the action for damages for the harm allegedly suffered as a result of the applicants' inclusion on the list of persons, entities, and bodies in Annex V to Regulation 423/2007 and in Annex VIII to Regulation 961/2010. (Case C-123/18 P *HTTS Hanseatic Trade Trust & Shipping v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 161/37](#))
- iii Opinion by the Advocate General Mengozzi advising the Court of Justice to dismiss the appeal against the General Court's judgment of June 2, 2016, by which the Court dismissed the appeal against Council Regulation 1263/2012 amending Regulation 267/2012, and Council Decision 2012/635/CFSP amending Decision 2010/413/CFSP. (Case C-430/16 P *Bank Mellat v. Council*, Advocate General [opinion](#) of May 30, 2018)

### Syria

- i The General Court dismissed the appeal against Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/850 amending Decision (CFSP) 2013/255 and Council Implementing Regulation 2016/840 implementing Regulation 36/2012. (Case T-461/16 *Kaddour v. Council*, [judgment](#) of May 31, 2018)
- ii The Court of Justice confirmed that the fund-freezing measures imposed on Rami Makhoul, cousin of Bashar al-Assad, must be maintained for the period 2016–2017.

(Case C-458/17 P *Makhoul v. Council*, [judgment](#) of June 14, 2018, available in French; [Court Press Release](#), June 14, 2018)

- iii The General Court dismissed the appeal against Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/850 amending Decision 2013/255/CFSP and Council Implementing Regulation 2016/840 implementing Regulation 36/2012. (Case T-408/16 *HX v. Council*, [judgment](#) of June 19, 2018, available in French)

### Ukraine

- i The General Court dismissed the appeal against Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/318 amending Decision 2014/119/CFSP and Council Implementing Regulation 2016/311 implementing Regulation 208/2014. (Case T-190/16 *Azarov v. Council*, [judgment](#) of April 26, 2018, available in French)
- ii The General Court annulled Council Decision (CFSP) 2017/381 amending Decision 2014/119/CFSP. (Case T-258/17 *Arbuzov v. Council*, [judgment](#) of June 6, 2018, available in French)
- iii The General Court dismissed the appeal against Council Regulations 208/2014, 2015/357, 2015/869, and 208/2014 and Council Decisions 2014/119/CFSP, 2015/364/CFSP, 2015/876/CFSP, and 2016/318/CFSP. (Case T-210/16 *Lukash v. Council*, [judgment](#) of June 6, 2018, available in French)

### Venezuela

- i Appeal against Council Regulation 2017/2063. (Case T-65/18 *Venezuela v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 134/24](#))
- ii Appeals against Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/90 amending Decision (CFSP) 2017/2074 and Council Implementing Regulation 2018/88 implementing Regulation 2017/2063. (Case T-245/18 *Benavides Torres v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 200/47](#); Case T-246/18 *Moreno Pérez v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 200/48](#); Case T-247/18 *Lucena Ramírez v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 200/48](#); Case T-248/18 *Cabello Rondón v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 200/49](#); Case T-249/18 *Saab Halabi v. Council*, [OJ 2018 C 200/50](#))



## **OTHER EU INSTITUTIONS**

### **EU best practices for the effective implementation of restrictive measures**

Latest version of the updated EU Best Practices Paper.

([Updated paper](#), May 4, 2018)

### **Sanctions guidelines**

The Council adopted the updated sanctions guidelines, including further elements concerning the definition of "financing and financial assistance."

([Council Press Release](#), May 14, 2018)

### **Targeted sanctions against individuals on grounds of grave human rights violations**

The European Parliament published a study on the impact, trends, and prospects at EU level of targeted sanctions against individuals on grounds of grave human rights violations.

([Study](#), April 2018)

### **Belarus**

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on Belarus.

([Resolution](#), April 19, 2018)

### **Central African Republic**

i Council Implementing Regulation 2018/698 implementing Article 17(3) of Regulation 224/2014.  
([OJ 2018 L 117 I/1](#))

ii Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2018/699 implementing Decision 2013/798/CFSP.  
([OJ 2018 L 117 I/3](#))

### **Congo**

i The Council amended the statements of reasons relating to two persons under restrictive measures in view of the situation in Congo.  
([Council Press Release](#), April 12, 2018)

ii Council Implementing Regulation 2018/566 implementing Article 9 of Regulation 1183/2005.  
([OJ 2018 L 95/9](#))

iii Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2018/569 implementing Decision 2010/788/CFSP.  
([OJ 2018 L 95/21](#))

### **Iran**

i The Council extended by one year its restrictive measures responding to serious human rights violations in Iran.

([Council Press Release](#), April 12, 2018)

ii Council Implementing Regulation 2018/565 implementing Regulation 359/2011.

([OJ 2018 L 95/1](#))

iii Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/568 amending Decision 2011/235/CFSP.

([OJ 2018 L 95/14](#))

iv Notice for the attention of the persons to whom measures provided for in Council Decision 2011/235/CFSP, as amended by Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/568 and in Council Regulation 359/2011, as implemented by Council Implementing Regulation 2018/565 apply.

([OJ 2018 C 132/2](#))

v Notice for the attention of the data subjects to whom the restrictive measures provided for in Council Regulation 359/2011 apply.

([OJ 2018 C 132/3](#))

vi Notice for the attention of certain persons subject to the restrictive measures provided for in Council Decision 2010/413/CFSP and Council Regulation 267/2012.

([OJ 2018 C 139/7](#))

vii The Commission took steps to preserve the interests of European companies investing in Iran and demonstrate the EU's commitment to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/3861, May 18, 2018)

viii The Council completed its mandatory regular review of persons and entities who remain subject to restrictive measures against Iran, in accordance with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).  
([Council Press Release](#), June 5, 2018)

ix The Commission adopted an update of the blocking statute and of the European Investment Bank (EIB)'s external lending mandate.

([Commission Daily News](#), June 6, 2018)

x Commission delegated regulation amending the Annex to Council Regulation 2271/96 protecting against the effects of extra-territorial application of legislation adopted by a third country, and actions based thereon or resulting therefrom.

([Draft act](#), June 6, 2018; [Annex](#), June 6, 2018)

xi Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/833 amending Decision 2010/413/CFSP.

([OJ 2018 L 140/87](#))

- xii Council Implementing Regulation 2018/827 implementing Regulation 267/2012.  
([OJ 2018 L 140/3](#))
  - xiii Notice for the attention of the persons and entities subject to the restrictive measures provided for in Council Decision 2010/413/CFSP as amended by Decision (CFSP) 2018/833 and in Council Regulation 267/2012 as implemented by Implementing Regulation 2018/827.  
([OJ 2018 C 193/6](#))
  - xiv Notice for the attention of the data subjects to whom the restrictive measures provided for in Council Regulation 267/2012 apply.  
([OJ 2018 C 193/7](#))
  - xv Commission report on the exercise of the power to adopt delegated acts conferred on the Commission pursuant to Council Regulation 2271/96 protecting against the effects of the extra-territorial application of legislation adopted by a third country, and actions based thereon or resulting therefrom (Blocking Regulation).  
([COM 2018/494](#), June 19, 2018)
- v The Council transposed into EU law sanctions adopted by the United Nations on June 7, 2018, imposing a travel ban and an asset freeze on six human traffickers and smugglers operating in Libya.  
([Council Press Release](#), June 14, 2018)
  - vi Council Implementing Regulation 2018/870 implementing Article 21(1) of Regulation 2016/44.  
([OJ 2018 L 152/1](#))
  - vii Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2018/872 implementing Decision (CFSP) 2015/1333.  
([OJ 2018 L 152/22](#))
  - viii Notice for the attention of the persons subject to the restrictive measures provided for in Council Decision (CFSP) 2015/1333 and Council Regulation 2016/44.  
([OJ 2018 C 208/2](#))
  - ix Notice for the attention of the data subjects to whom the restrictive measures provided for in Council Regulation 2016/44 apply.  
([OJ 2018 C 208/4](#))

### **Iraq**

Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/875 amending Council Regulation 1210/2003 concerning certain specific restrictions on economic and financial relations with Iraq.  
([OJ 2018 L 154/1](#))

### **Libya**

- i The Council adopted a decision transposing into EU law the update made to the list of vessels subject to restrictive measures by the UN Security Council Committee.  
([Council Press Release](#), May 14, 2018)
  - ii Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/711 amending Council Regulation 2016/44.  
([OJ 2018 L 119/35](#))
  - iii Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2018/713 implementing Decision (CFSP) 2015/1333.  
([OJ 2018 L 119/39](#))
  - iv The European Parliament adopted a recommendation to the Council, the Commission, and the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on Libya.  
([Recommendation](#), May 30, 2018)
- i The Council imposed further restrictive measures on Myanmar/Burma, strengthening the EU's arms embargo and targeting the Myanmar/Burma army and border guard police officials.  
([Council Press Release](#), April 26, 2018)
  - ii Council Regulation 2018/647 amending Regulation 401/2013.  
([OJ 2018 L 108/1](#))
  - iii Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/655 amending Decision 2013/184/CFSP.  
([OJ 2018 L 108/29](#))
  - iv The Council placed seven individuals under restrictive measures in light of the situation in Myanmar/Burma.  
([Council Press Release](#), June 25, 2018)
  - v Council Implementing Regulation 2018/898 implementing Regulation 401/2013.  
([OJ 2018 L 160 I/1](#))
  - vi Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/900 amending Decision 2013/184/CFSP.  
([OJ 2018 L 160 I/9](#))

vii Notice for the attention of the persons subject to the restrictive measures provided for in Council Decision 2013/184/CFSP, as amended by Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/900, and in Council Regulation 401/2013, as implemented by Council Implementing Regulation 2018/898.

[\(OJ 2018 C 222/4\)](#)

viii Notice for the attention of the data subjects to whom the restrictive measures provided for in Council Regulation 401/2013 apply.

[\(OJ 2018 C 222/5\)](#)

#### North Korea

i The EU aligned its restrictive measures with the latest UN sanctions.

[\(Council Press Release](#), April 6, 2018)

ii Council Implementing Regulation 2018/548 implementing Regulation 2017/1509.

[\(OJ 2018 L 91/2\)](#)

iii Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2018/551 implementing Decision (CFSP) 2016/849.

[\(OJ 2018 L 91/16\)](#)

iv Notice for the attention of the person and entities subject to the restrictive measures provided for in Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/849, as implemented by Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2018/551, and Council Regulation 2017/1509, as implemented by Council Implementing Regulation 2018/548.

[\(OJ 2018 C 122/3\)](#)

v Notice for the attention of the data subject to whom the restrictive measures provided for in Council Regulation 2017/1509, as implemented by Council Implementing Regulation 2018/548, apply.

[\(OJ 2018 C 122/4\)](#)

vi The Council added four persons to the list of those subject to the restrictive measures against North Korea.

[\(Council Press Release](#), April 19, 2018)

vii Council Implementing Regulation 2018/602 implementing Regulation 2017/1509.

[\(OJ 2018 L 101/16\)](#)

viii Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/611 amending Decision (CFSP) 2016/849.

[\(OJ 2018 L 101/70\)](#)

ix Notice for the attention of the persons subject to the restrictive measures provided for in Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/849, as amended by Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/611, and in Regulation

2017/1509, as implemented by Council Implementing Regulation 2018/602.

[\(OJ 2018 C 139/8\)](#)

x Notice for the attention of the data subjects to whom the restrictive measures provided for in Council Regulation 2017/1509 apply.

[\(OJ 2018 C 139/9\)](#)

xi The Council adopted a technical modification related to six individuals on its list of those subject to a travel ban and an asset freeze in response to the nuclear and ballistic missile programs in flagrant disregard of UN Security Council resolutions.

[\(Council Press Release](#), May 14, 2018)

xii Council Implementing Regulation 2018/714 implementing Regulation 2017/1509.

[\(OJ 2018 L 120/1\)](#)

xiii Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/715 amending Decision (CFSP) 2016/849.

[\(OJ 2018 L 120/4\)](#)

xiv Council Implementing Regulation 2018/814 implementing Regulation 2017/1509.

[\(OJ 2018 L 137/1\)](#)

xv Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2018/819 implementing Decision (CFSP) 2016/849.

[\(OJ 2018 L 137/25\)](#)

xvi Notice for the attention of certain persons subject to the restrictive measures provided for in Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/849 and Council Regulation 2017/1509.

[\(OJ 2018 C 214/2\)](#)

#### Russia/Ukraine

i The Council added five persons to the list of those subject to restrictive measures over actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine.

[\(Council Press Release](#), May 14, 2018)

ii Council Implementing Regulation 2018/705 implementing Regulation 269/2014.

[\(OJ 2018 L 118 I/1\)](#)

iii Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/706 amending Decision 2014/145/CFSP.

[\(OJ 2018 L 118 I/3\)](#)

- iv Notice for the attention of the persons subject to the restrictive measures provided for in Council Decision 2014/145/CFSP, as amended by Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/706, and in Council Regulation 269/2014 as implemented by Council Implementing Regulation 2018/705.  
([OJ 2018 C 167/3](#))
- v Notice for the attention of the data subjects to whom the restrictive measures provided for in Council Regulation 269/2014, as implemented by Council Implementing Regulation 2018/705, apply.  
([OJ 2018 C 167/4](#))
- vi Notice for the attention of certain persons and entities subject to the restrictive measures provided for in Council Decision 2014/145/CFSP and Council Regulation 269/2014.  
([OJ 2018 C 191/4](#))
- vii The Council extended the restrictive measures in response to the illegal annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol by Russia by one year.  
([Council Press Release](#), June 18, 2018)
- viii The European Parliament adopted a resolution on Russia.  
([Resolution](#), June 14, 2018)
- ix Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/880 amending Decision 2014/386/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in response to the illegal annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol.  
([OJ 2018 L 155/5](#))

#### South Sudan

The Council adopted conclusions on South Sudan.  
([Council Press Release](#), April 16, 2018; [Conclusions](#), April 16, 2018)

#### Syria

- i Notice for the attention of certain persons subject to the restrictive measures provided for in Council Decision 2013/255/CFSP and Council Regulation 36/2012.  
([OJ 2018 C 132/4](#))
- ii The Council adopted conclusions on Syria.  
([Council Press Release](#), April 16, 2018; [Conclusions](#), April 16, 2018)
- iii The Council extended EU restrictive measures against the Syrian regime by one year.  
([Council Press Release](#), May 28, 2018)

- iv Council Implementing Regulation 2018/774 implementing Regulation 36/2012.  
([OJ 2018 L 131/1](#))
- v Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/778 amending Decision 2013/255/CFSP.  
([OJ 2018 L 131/16](#))
- vi Notice for the attention of persons and entities subject to the restrictive measures provided for in Council Decision 2013/255/CFSP and in Council Regulation 36/2012.  
([OJ 2018 C 183/2](#))
- vii Notice for the attention of the data subjects to whom the restrictive measures provided for in Council Regulation 36/2012 apply.  
([OJ 2018 C 183/3](#))

#### Yemen

- i Council Implementing Regulation 2018/689 implementing Article 15(3) of Regulation 1352/2014.  
([OJ 2018 L 117/1](#))
- ii Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2018/694 implementing Decision 2014/932/CFSP.  
([OJ 2018 L 117/17](#))

#### Venezuela

- i The Council adopted conclusions.  
([Council Press Release](#), May 28, 2018)
- ii The Council decided to put eleven individuals holding official positions under restrictive measures.  
([Council Press Release](#), June 25, 2018)
- iii Council Implementing Regulation 2018/899 implementing Regulation 2017/2063.  
([OJ 2018 L 160 I/5](#))
- iv Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/901 amending Decision (CFSP) 2017/2074.  
([OJ 2018 L 160 I/12](#))
- v Notice for the attention of the persons subject to the restrictive measures provided for in Council Decision (CFSP) 2017/2074, as amended by Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/901, and in Council Regulation 2017/2063, as implemented by Council Implementing Regulation 2018/899.  
([OJ 2018 C 222/6](#))
- vi Notice for the attention of the data subjects to whom the restrictive measures provided for in Council Regulation 2017/2063 apply.  
([OJ 2018 C 222/7](#))

## 5. Other Measures

### US tariffs on steel and aluminum imports

- i The Commission introduced an import surveillance system for aluminum.  
([Commission Daily News](#), April 26, 2018)
- ii Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/640 introducing prior Union surveillance of imports of certain aluminum products originating in certain third countries.  
([OJ 2018 L 106/7](#))
- iii Commission statement following the US announcement of an extension until June 1, 2018, of the EU's exemption from US tariffs on steel and aluminum imports.  
([Commission Press Release](#), May 1, 2018)
- iv Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/724 on certain commercial policy measures concerning certain products originating in the US.  
([OJ 2018 L 122/14](#))
- v The EU published a list of US products for potential re-balancing duties.  
([Commission Press Release](#), May 18, 2018)
- vi Statements by the Commission, President Tajani and by the Chairman of the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade following the US announcement that it will impose additional duties of 25% and 10% respectively on imports of steel and aluminum from the EU.  
([Commission Press Release](#), May 31, 2018; [EP Press Release](#), May 31, 2018; [EP Press Release](#), May 31, 2018)
- vii The College of Commissioners endorsed the decision to impose additional duties on the full list of US products notified to the WTO, as part of the EU's response to the US tariffs on steel and aluminum products.  
([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/4083, June 6, 2018)
- viii Interpretative notice on the application of the prior Union surveillance of imports of certain iron and steel products and certain aluminum products originating in certain third countries.  
([OJ 2018 C 201/8](#))
- ix The Commission adopted the regulation putting in place the EU's rebalancing measures in response to the US tariffs on steel and aluminum.

([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/4220, June 20, 2018; [OJ 2018 L 158/5](#))

- x Notice amending the notice of initiation of a safeguard investigation concerning the imports of steel products.  
([OJ 2018 C 225/54](#))

### EU trade policy

- i The European Parliament's Committee on International Trade adopted a resolution with respect to the implementation of the common commercial policy.  
([EP Press Release](#), April 24, 2018)
- ii Report by the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade on the annual report on the implementation of the common commercial policy.  
([Report](#), May 7, 2018)
- iii The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the annual report on the implementation of the common commercial policy.  
([Resolution](#), May 30, 2018)

### EU trade agreements

The Council adopted conclusions on the negotiation and conclusion of EU trade agreements.  
([Council Press Release](#), May 22, 2018)

### Parallel trade of medicines - Infringements (Poland, Romania, and Slovakia)

The Commission decided to close its infringement procedures and the treatment of complaints in the area of parallel trade of medicines for human use against Poland, Romania, and Slovakia.  
([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/3459, May 17, 2018)

### Foreign Direct Investments (FDI)

- i Opinion by the European Parliament's Committee on Industry, Research, and Energy on the proposed regulation establishing a framework for screening of foreign direct investments into the EU.  
([Opinion](#), April 25, 2018)
- ii The European Parliament's Committee on International Trade voted in favor of plans to set up a mechanism to screen FDI in a transparent, predictable, and non-discriminatory manner.  
([EP Press Release](#), May 28, 2018)
- iii EU ambassadors agreed on the Council's stance on the proposed regulation on screening of investments.  
([Council Press Release](#), June 13, 2018)



iv Report by the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade on the proposed regulation establishing a framework for screening of FDI into the EU.

([Report](#), June 4, 2018)

#### **Ivory trade**

MEPs called for a ban on domestic ivory trade in the EU.

([EP Press Release](#), June 14, 2018)

#### **Horizontal safeguard clause**

Proposed regulation implementing the safeguard clauses and other mechanisms allowing for the temporary withdrawal of preferences in certain agreements concluded between the EU and certain third countries.

([COM 2018/206](#), April 18, 2018; [Annex](#), April 18, 2018)

#### **Trade in goods which could be used for capital punishment, torture, or degrading treatment**

Proposed regulation concerning trade in certain goods which could be used for capital punishment, torture, or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment (codification).

([COM 2018/316](#), May 24, 2018; [Annexes](#) 1-11, May 24, 2018)

#### **Trade in rough diamonds**

Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/578 amending Council Regulation 2368/2002 implementing the Kimberley Process certification scheme for the international trade in rough diamonds.

([OJ 2018 L 97/1](#))

#### **Bilateral investment agreements**

List of the bilateral investment agreements referred to in Article 4(1) of Regulation 1219/2012 establishing transitional arrangements for bilateral investment agreements between Member States and third countries.

([OJ 2018 C 149/1](#))

#### **Export credits**

Annual review by the Commission of Member States' Annual Activity Reports on Export Credits in the sense of Regulation 1233/2011.

([COM 2018/262](#), May 4, 2018)

## **III. EC Customs Policy**

### **EU COURTS**

#### **Customs Union**

The Court of Justice held that spinal fixation systems may not be classified under subheading 9021 90 90 of the Combined Nomenclature if they are covered by another subheading of heading 9021 of the Combined Nomenclature.

(Case C-227/17 *Medtronic*, [judgment](#) of April 12, 2018)

#### **Common Customs Tariff**

The Court of Justice dismissed the appeal against the General Court's judgment of February 16, 2017, by which the Court dismissed as unfounded the appeal brought by Lubrizol against Council Regulation 1387/2013 suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural and industrial products and repealing Regulation 1344/2011, to the extent that those measures deprived the applicant of its entitlement to three duty suspensions which it previously enjoyed under former TARIC Codes 2918 2900 80, 3811 2900 10, and 3811 9000 30.

(Case C-223/17 P *Lubrizol France v. Council*, [judgment](#) of June 14, 2018)

#### **Combined Nomenclature**

Reference for a preliminary ruling from a Danish Court seeking guidance from the Court of Justice on the classification of certain goods in the Combined Nomenclature.

(Case C-138/18 *Skatteministeriet v. Estron*, reference for a preliminary ruling: [OJ 2018 C 166/21](#))

### **OTHER EU INSTITUTIONS**

#### **Additional customs duties on imports of certain products originating in the US**

i The Council agreed to the Commission proposal of imposing an additional duty of 0.3% to the applicable customs duty on a number of products originating in the US.

([Council Press Release](#), April 16, 2018)

ii Commission Delegated Regulation 2018/632 amending Council Regulation 673/2005 establishing additional customs duties on imports of certain products originating in the US.

([OJ 2018 L 105/3](#))

### World Customs Organization

The Council coordinated the EU positions with a view to the following sessions of the World Customs Organization.

([Council Press Release](#), June 22, 2018)

### Suspension of duties on goods for aircrafts

i The Council adopted a regulation updating the rules on the suspension of customs duties on goods used for aircrafts.

([Council Press Release](#), April 16, 2018)

ii Council Regulation 2018/581 temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain goods of a kind to be incorporated in or used for aircraft, and repealing Regulation 1147/2002.

([OJ 2018 L 98/1](#))

### EU/New Zealand

i The Council approved the conclusion of an agreement with New Zealand on cooperation and mutual administrative assistance in customs matters.

([Council Press Release](#), April 16, 2018)

ii Council Decision 2018/600 on the signing, on behalf of the EU, of the EU/New Zealand agreement on cooperation and mutual administrative assistance in customs matters.

([OJ 2018 L 101/3](#))

iii Council Decision 2018/601 on the conclusion, on behalf of the EU, of the agreement between the EU and New Zealand on cooperation and mutual administrative assistance in customs matters.

([OJ 2018 L 101/5](#))

iv EU/New Zealand agreement on cooperation and mutual administrative assistance in customs matters.

([OJ 2018 L 101/6](#))

### Customs Code

i The Commission published the feedback received to the draft Commission delegated regulation amending and correcting Delegated Regulation 2015/2446 supplementing Regulation 952/2013 as regards detailed rules concerning certain provisions of the Union Customs Code.

([Feedback page](#))

ii Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/604 amending Implementing Regulation 2015/2447 as regards the procedural rules to facilitate the establishment in the Union of the preferential origin

of goods, and repealing Regulations 3510/80 and 209/2005.

([OJ 2018 L 101/22](#))

iii Commission delegated regulation on amending Delegated Regulation 2015/2446 as regards the conditions for a reduction of the level of the comprehensive guarantee and the guarantee waiver.

([Draft act](#), April 23, 2018)

iv Communication in accordance with Article 34(7)(a)(iii) of Regulation 952/2013 on decisions relating to binding information issued by the customs authorities of the Member States concerning the classification of goods in the customs nomenclature.

([OJ 2018 C 146/1](#))

v Proposed regulation amending Regulation 952/2013 laying down the Union Customs Code.

([COM 2018/259](#), May 8, 2018)

vi Commission delegated regulation amending and correcting Delegated Regulation 2015/2446 supplementing Regulation 952/2013 as regards detailed rules concerning certain provisions of the Union Customs Code.

([Draft act](#), May 22, 2018)

vii Commission delegated regulation amending Delegated Regulation 2015/2446 as regards the conditions for a reduction of the level of the comprehensive guarantee and the guarantee waiver.

([Draft act](#), June 7, 2018)

### EU Single Window environment for customs

The Commission published an inception impact assessment with regard to an EU Single Window environment for customs.

([Inception impact assessment](#), May 4, 2018; [Feedback page](#))

### Brexit

The Commission published a slide on customs controls.

([Slide](#), May 22, 2018)

### Customs 2020 program

2016 Commission progress report with respect to the Customs 2020 program.

([Commission staff working document](#), April 11, 2018)

### Customs cooperation

Proposed regulation establishing the “Customs” program for cooperation in the field of customs.

([COM 2018/442](#), June 8, 2018; [Annexes](#), June 8, 2018; [Impact assessment](#), June 8, 2018; [Executive summary](#) of the impact assessment, June 8, 2018)

#### IT strategy for customs

Commission report on the IT strategy for customs.

([COM 2018/178](#), April 11, 2018)

#### Common Customs Tariff

- i Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/549 amending Annex I to Council Regulation 2658/87 on the tariff and statistical nomenclature and on the Common Customs Tariff.  
([OJ 2018 L 91/11](#))
- ii Proposed Council regulation amending Regulation 1387/2013 suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural and industrial products.  
([COM 2018/343](#), May 28, 2018; [Annexes](#) 1–2, May 28, 2018)
- iii The Council adopted two regulations amending: (i) Regulation 1388/2013 opening and providing for the management of autonomous tariff quotas of the EU for certain agricultural and industrial products as from July 1, 2018; and (ii) Regulation 1387/2013 suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural, fishery, and industrial products as from July 1, 2018.  
([Council Press Release](#), June 25, 2018; (i) [OJ 2018 L 162/3](#); (ii) [OJ 2018 L 162/8](#))

#### Customs policy expert group

Commission decision of June 7, 2018, formalizing the Commission Customs Policy expert group.

([OJ 2018 C 201/3](#))

#### Combined Nomenclature

- i Commission Implementing Regulations 2018/553, 2018/603, 2018/787, 2018/837, and 2018/838 concerning the classification of certain goods in the Combined Nomenclature.  
([OJ 2018 L 92/1](#); [OJ 2018 L 101/18](#); [OJ 2018 L 134/1](#); [OJ 2018 L 141/1](#); [OJ 2018 L 141/4](#))
- ii Explanatory notes to the EU's Combined Nomenclature.  
([OJ 2018 C 186/2](#); [OJ 2018 C 191/6](#); [OJ 2018 C 191/6](#); [OJ 2018 C 191/7](#))

## IV. EU External Relations

### 1. Enlargement

#### 2018 enlargement package

The Commission adopted its annual enlargement package, including seven individual reports, assessing the implementation of the EU's enlargement policy, which is based on established criteria and fair and rigorous conditionality.

([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/3342, April 17, 2018; [EP Press Release](#), April 17, 2018; Commission communication: [COM 2018/450](#), April 17, 2018; [Factsheet & Report](#) (Montenegro); [Factsheet & Report](#) (Bosnia and Herzegovina); [Factsheet & Report](#) (Turkey); [Factsheet & Report](#) (Serbia); [Factsheet & Report](#) (Macedonia); [Factsheet & Report](#) (Kosovo); [Factsheet & Report](#) (Albania))

#### European Neighborhood Policy (ENP)/EU enlargement

The Commission started a consultation on the evaluation of EU support for rule of law in neighborhood countries and candidates and potential candidates of enlargement (2010–2017).

([Consultation page](#))

#### Western Balkans

The Council adopted conclusions on the EU's enlargement policy and the EU/Western Balkans stabilization and association process.

([Council Press Release](#), June 26, 2018; [Conclusions](#), June 26, 2018)

#### Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III)

Proposed regulation establishing the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III).

([COM 2018/465](#), June 14, 2018)

### 2. Multi- or Plurilateral

#### AMERICAS

##### EU/Mercosur

- i The EU and Mercosur completed the latest round of negotiations.  
([Commission Press Release](#), June 12, 2018)
- ii The Commission published reports from the latest negotiating rounds with Chile and Mercosur.

([Commission Daily News](#), June 22, 2018; [Report](#), June 22, 2018; [Report](#), June 22, 2018)

### 3. Bilateral

#### AFRICA

##### **EU/Morocco**

- i The Commission adopted two proposals for Council decisions in relation to the signature and the conclusion of an agreement between the EU and Morocco on the amendment of the EU/Morocco Association Agreement (Protocols No. 1 and No. 4). ([Commission Daily News](#), June 11, 2018; Proposed Council decision (available in French): [COM 2018/479](#), June 11, 2018; Proposed Council decision (available in French): [COM 2018/481](#), June 11, 2018)
- ii Joint proposed Council decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the EU in the Association Council set up by the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the EU and Morocco, with regard to the adoption of a recommendation on the extension of the EU/Morocco action plan implementing the advanced status (2013–2017). ([JOIN 2018/19](#), June 22, 2018; [Annex](#), June 22, 2018)

##### **EU/Tunisia**

- i The Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS) published a progress report on the state of EU/Tunisia relations. ([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/3703, May 8, 2018; [Joint staff working document](#) available in French, April 30, 2018)
- ii The Council adopted the EU position for the fourteenth Association Council with Tunisia. ([Council Press Release](#), May 14, 2018)
- iii The EU and Tunisia completed the second round of negotiations for a deep and comprehensive trade agreement. ([Commission Press Release](#), June 4, 2018)

##### **EU/Algeria**

- i The Council approved the EU position for the EU/Algeria Association Committee regarding modification of the conditions of application of the preferential tariffs for agricultural products and processed agricultural products set out in Article 14

of the Euro-Mediterranean agreement establishing an association between the EU and Algeria.

([Council Press Release](#), April 17, 2018)

- ii Council Decision 2018/641 on the position to be adopted on the behalf of the EU within the EU/Algeria Association Committee as regards the modification of the conditions of application of the preferential tariffs for agricultural products and processed agricultural products set out in Article 14 of the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the EU and Algeria. ([OJ 2018 L 106/17](#))
- iii The Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS) published a progress report on the state of EU/Algeria relations. ([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/3564, May 3, 2018; [Joint staff working document](#) available in French, April 6, 2018)
- iv Joint statement on the occasion of the eleventh meeting of the EU/Algeria Association Council. ([Council Press Release](#) available in French, May 14, 2018)

#### AMERICAS

##### **EU/Mexico**

- i The EU and Mexico reached a new agreement on trade as part of a broader, modernized EU/Mexico global agreement. ([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/782, April 21, 2018; [Commission Press Release](#), April 21, 2018; [EP Press Release](#), April 23, 2018; [Agreement in principle](#), April 23, 2018; [Joint statement](#) by Commissioners Malmström and Hogan and Secretary of the Economy Guajardo Villarreal, April 21, 2018)
- ii The Commission published the report of the sixth round of negotiations for modernizing the EU/Mexico global agreement. ([Report](#), June 12, 2018)

##### **EU/Canada**

- i The Commission published the responses received to its call for proposals for regulatory cooperation activities in the Regulatory Cooperation Forum (RCF) under the EU/Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). ([Consultation page](#))

- ii Proposed Council decision on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the EU, in the CETA Joint Committee established by the EU/Canada comprehensive economic and trade agreement, as regards the adoption of the Rules of Procedure for the CETA Joint Committee and specialized committees.  
([COM 2018/344](#), May 25, 2018; [Annex](#), May 25, 2018)

#### **EU/Chile**

- i Report by the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs on the European Parliament recommendation to the Council, the Commission, and the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on the negotiations on the modernization of the EU/Chile association agreement.  
([Report](#), May 2, 2018)
- ii The EU and Chile completed the third round of negotiations for a new, modernized trade agreement between the EU and Chile.  
([Commission Press Release](#), June 6, 2018)
- iii The European Parliament adopted a recommendation to the Council, the Commission, and the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on the negotiations on the modernization of the EU/Chile association agreement.  
([Recommendation](#), June 13, 2018)
- iv The Commission published reports from the latest negotiating rounds with Chile and Mercosur.  
([Commission Daily News](#), June 22, 2018; [Report](#), June 22, 2018; [Report](#), June 22, 2018)

#### **EU/Cuba**

Decision 1/2018 of the EU/Cuba Joint Council adopting its Rules of Procedure and those of the Joint Committee.  
([OJ 2018 L 160/11](#))

### **ASIA**

#### **EU/Kazakhstan**

Council Decision 2017/477 - Choice of the correct legal basis - Demarcation between the common foreign and security policy and the communitized policies - Agreement on enhanced partnership and cooperation -

Adoption of the Rules of Procedure of the Cooperation Council and establishment of specialized subcommittees - Decision on the position to be adopted by the EU within the Cooperation Council - Voting in the Council of the EU with unanimity or by qualified majority.

(Case C-244/17 *Commission v. Council*, Advocate General [opinion](#), May 31, 2018)

#### **EU/China**

- i Opinion by the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade on the state of EU/China relations.  
([Opinion](#), May 29, 2018)
- ii The Commission published the report of the seventeenth round of negotiations for the EU/China investment agreement.  
([Report](#), June 2018)

#### **EU/Japan**

- i The Commission presented the outcome of negotiations for the economic partnership agreement with Japan to the Council.  
([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/3325, April 18, 2018; [Commission Press Release](#), April 18, 2018; [Commission page](#); [Opening remarks](#) by Commissioners Katainen and Malmström, April 18, 2018)
- ii Proposed Council decisions on the conclusion of, and the signing of, on behalf of the EU, the economic partnership agreement between the EU and Japan.  
([COM 2018/192](#), April 18, 2018; [COM 2018/193](#), April 18, 2018)
- iii Joint proposed Council decisions on (i) the conclusion (on behalf of the EU); and (ii) the signing (on behalf of the EU) and provisional application of the EU/Japan strategic partnership agreement.  
(i) [JOIN 2018/11](#), April 27, 2018; [Annex](#) 1, April 27, 2018; [Annex](#) 2, April 27, 2018; (ii) [JOIN 2018/10](#), April 27, 2018; [Annex](#) 1, April 27, 2018; [Annex](#) 2, April 27, 2018)

#### **EU/Vietnam**

The EU and Vietnam finalized the trade and investment discussions.

([Commission Press Release](#), June 26, 2018)



**EU/Singapore**

- i The Commission presented the outcome of negotiations for the trade and investment agreements with Singapore to the Council.  
([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/3325, April 18, 2018; [Commission Press Release](#), April 18, 2018; [Commission page](#); [Opening remarks](#) by Commissioner Katainen and Malmström, April 18, 2018)
- ii Proposed Council decision on: (i) the conclusion of; and (ii) the signing, on behalf of the EU, of the EU/Singapore free trade agreement.  
(i) [COM 2018/196](#), April 18, 2018; (ii) [COM 2018/197](#), April 18, 2018)
- iii Proposed Council decisions on: (i) the conclusion of; and (ii) the signing, on behalf of the EU, of the EU/Singapore investment protection agreement.  
(i) [COM 2018/194](#), April 18, 2018; [Annex 1](#), April 18, 2018; [Annex 2](#), April 18, 2018; (ii) [COM 2018/195](#), April 18, 2018)
- iv Council decision on the signing, on behalf of the Union, of the EU/Singapore partnership and cooperation agreement.  
([Text](#) of decision, May 4, 2018)

**EU/Indonesia**

Sustainability impact assessment in support of free trade agreement negotiations between the EU and Indonesia.

([Draft inception report](#), May 25, 2018)

**EU/Malaysia**

Sustainability impact assessment in support of free trade agreement negotiations between the EU and Malaysia.

([Draft inception report](#), May 25, 2018)

**EU/Philippines**

Sustainability impact assessment in support of free trade agreement negotiations between the EU and the Philippines.

([Draft inception report](#), May 25, 2018)

**EUROPE****EU/Moldova**

The Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS) published a joint association implementation report on Moldova.

([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/2781, April 5, 2018; [Joint staff working document](#), April 3, 2018)

**EU/Azerbaijan**

- i The European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs voted in favor of the recommendation on the negotiations on the EU/Azerbaijan comprehensive agreement.  
([EP Press Release](#), May 16, 2018)
- ii Report by the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs on a European Parliament recommendation to the Council, the Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on the negotiations on the EU/Azerbaijan comprehensive agreement.  
([Report](#), May 23, 2018)

**EU/Georgia**

- i Decision 1/2018 of the Geographical Indications Sub-Committee modifying Annexes XVII-C and XVII-D to the EU/Georgia association agreement.  
([OJ 2018 L 100/1](#))
- ii Proposed Council decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the EU, in the Association Committee meeting in trade configuration established by the EU/Georgia association agreement, concerning the update of Annex III (Approximation) concerning rules applicable to standardization, accreditation, conformity assessment, technical regulation and metrology, and Annex XVI (Public Procurement) to the agreement.  
([COM 2018/258](#), May 4, 2018; [Annex](#), May 4, 2018)
- iii Decision 1/2018 of the EU/Georgia Customs Sub-Committee replacing Protocol I to the EU/Georgia association agreement, concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative cooperation.  
([OJ 2018 L 140/107](#))

**EU/Montenegro**

- i The Council established the position of the EU for the ninth meeting of the EU/Montenegro Stabilization and Association Council.  
([Council Press Release](#), June 18, 2018)
- ii Joint press statement following the ninth meeting of the Stabilization and Association Council between the EU and Montenegro.  
([Council Press Release](#), June 25, 2018)

**EU/Macedonia**

i Council decision on the position to be adopted on behalf of the EU within the Stabilization and Association Council established by the EU/Macedonia stabilization and association agreement concerning the transition to the second stage of the association between the EU and Macedonia, pursuant to Article 5(3) of the agreement.

([Text](#) of decision, April 24, 2018)

ii The Council adopted the EU's position for the Stabilization and Association Council between the EU and Macedonia concerning the transition to the second stage of the association.

([Council Press Release](#), May 14, 2018)

iii Decision of the Stabilization and Association Council concerning the transition to the second stage of the association between the EU and Macedonia, pursuant to Article 5(3) of the stabilization and association agreement.

([Text](#) of decision, May 18, 2018)

iv Council Decision 2018/751 on the position to be adopted on behalf of the EU within the Stabilization and Association Council established by the EU/Macedonia stabilization and association agreement, concerning the transition to the second stage of the association between the EU and Macedonia, pursuant to Article 5(3) of the agreement.

([OJ 2018 L 126/3](#))

**EU/Armenia**

i Notice concerning the provisional application of the EU/Armenia comprehensive and enhanced partnership agreement.

([OJ 2018 L 122/1](#))

ii The Commission published a report on EU/Armenia relations in the framework of the revised European Neighborhood Policy (ENP).

([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/4033, June 6, 2018; [Joint staff working document](#), June 4, 2018)

iii The Council approved the EU position for the first EU/Armenia Partnership Council.

([Council Press Release](#), June 18, 2018)

iv Joint press statement following the first Partnership Council meeting between the EU and Armenia.

([Council Press Release](#), June 21, 2018)

v Recommendation by the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs on the draft Council

decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the comprehensive and enhanced partnership agreement between the EU and Armenia.

([Recommendation](#), May 17, 2018)

vi Report by the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs containing a motion for a non-legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the EU/Armenia comprehensive and enhanced partnership agreement.

([Report](#), May 22, 2018)

**MIDDLE EAST****EU/Jordan**

i Proposed Council decision on the position to be taken, on behalf of the EU, in the Association Committee established by the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the EU and Jordan, as regards an amendment to Protocol 3 to that Agreement concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative cooperation.

([COM 2018/463](#), June 14, 2018; [Annex](#), June 14, 2018)

ii Council decision on the position to be taken, on behalf of the EU, within the Association Committee established by the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the EU and Jordan, as regards an amendment to Protocol 3 to that Agreement concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative cooperation.

([Text](#) of decision, June 20, 2018)

**EU/Iraq**

i Recommendation of the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of a partnership and cooperation agreement between the EU and Iraq.

([Recommendation](#), June 26, 2018)

ii Report by the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs containing a motion for a non-legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of a EU/Iraq partnership and cooperation agreement.

([Report](#), June 26, 2018)

## **OCEANIA**

### **EU/Australia**

- i Recommendation by the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs on the draft Council decision on the conclusion on behalf of the Union of the EU/Australia framework agreement.  
([Recommendation](#), March 26, 2018)
- ii Report by the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs containing a motion for a non-legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion on behalf of the Union of the EU/Australia framework agreement.  
([Report](#), March 27, 2018)
- iii The European Parliament gave its consent to the EU/Australia framework agreement.  
([EP Press Release](#), April 18, 2018; [Resolution](#), April 18, 2018; [Non-legislative resolution](#), April 18, 2018)
- iv The Council authorized the Commission to open trade negotiations with Australia and adopted negotiating directives.  
([Council Press Release](#), May 22, 2018; [Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/3881, May 22, 2018)
- v The Commission started a consultation on a EU/Australia free trade agreement.  
([Consultation page](#))
- vi The EU and Australia launched negotiations for a comprehensive and ambitious trade agreement.

([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/4164, June 18, 2018)

- vii The Council published the mandate given to the Commission to negotiate a trade agreement with Australia.

([Council Press Release](#), June 25, 2018)

### **EU/New Zealand**

- i The Council authorized the Commission to open trade negotiations with Australia and New Zealand and adopted negotiating directives for each of the negotiations.  
([Council Press Release](#), May 22, 2018; [Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/3881, May 22, 2018)
- ii The Commission started a consultation on a EU/New Zealand free trade agreement.  
([Consultation page](#))
- iii The EU and New Zealand launched negotiations for a comprehensive and ambitious trade agreement.  
([Commission Press Release](#) IP/18/4165, June 21, 2018)
- iv The Council published the mandate given to the Commission to negotiate a trade agreement with New Zealand.  
([Council Press Release](#), June 25, 2018)

# Our Offices

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## **New York**

One Liberty Plaza  
New York, NY 10006-1470  
T: +1 212 225 2000  
F: +1 212 225 3999

## **Washington**

2000 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20006-1801  
T: +1 202 974 1500  
F: +1 202 974 1999

## **Paris**

12, rue de Tilsitt  
75008 Paris, France  
T: +33 1 40 74 68 00  
F: +33 1 40 74 68 88

## **Brussels**

Rue de la Loi 57  
1040 Brussels, Belgium  
T: +32 2 287 2000  
F: +32 2 231 1661

## **London**

2 London Wall Place  
London EC2Y 5AU  
T: +44 20 7614 2200  
F: +44 20 7600 1698

## **Moscow**

Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLC  
Paveletskaya Square 2/3  
Moscow, Russia 115054  
T: +7 495 660 8500  
F: +7 495 660 8505

## **Frankfurt**

Main Tower  
Neue Mainzer Strasse 52  
60311 Frankfurt am Main, Germany  
T: +49 69 97103 0  
F: +49 69 97103 199

## **Cologne**

Theodor-Heuss-Ring 9  
50688 Cologne, Germany  
T: +49 221 80040 0  
F: +49 221 80040 199

## **Rome**

Piazza di Spagna 15  
00187 Rome, Italy  
T: +39 06 69 52 21  
F: +39 06 69 20 06 65

## **Milan**

Via San Paolo 7  
20121 Milan, Italy  
T: +39 02 72 60 81  
F: +39 02 86 98 44 40

## **Hong Kong**

Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton (Hong Kong)  
37th Floor, Hysan Place  
500 Hennessy Road  
Causeway Bay  
Hong Kong  
T: +852 2521 4122  
F: +852 2845 9026

## **Beijing**

Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP Beijing Representative  
Office  
45th Floor, Fortune Financial Center  
5 Dong San Huan Zhong Lu  
Chaoyang District  
Beijing  
100020  
China  
T: +86 10 5920 1000  
F: +86 10 5879 3902

## **Buenos Aires**

CGSH International Legal Services, LLP-  
Sucursal Argentina  
Carlos Pellegrini 1427 – Floor 9  
C1011AAC Buenos Aires, Argentina  
T: +54 11 5556 8900  
F: +54 11 5556 8999

## **São Paulo**

Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton  
Consultores em Direito Estrangeiro  
Rua Prof. Atílio Innocenti, 165 – 14th Floor  
São Paulo, SP Brazil 04538-000  
T: +55 11 2196 7200  
F: +55 11 2196 7299

## **Abu Dhabi**

Al Sila Tower, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Abu Dhabi Global Market Square  
Al Maryah Island, PO Box 29920  
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates  
T: +971 2 412 1700  
F: +971 2 412 1899

## **Seoul**

Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP  
Foreign Legal Consultant Office  
19F, Ferrum Tower  
19, Eulji-ro 5-gil, Jung-gu  
Seoul 04539, Korea  
T: +82 2 6353 8000  
F: +82 2 6353 8099