EU and Canada move towards conclusion of trade negotiations

EU Trade Commissioner Karel De Gucht and Canadian Trade Minister Ed Fast met in Brussels yesterday, to bring the negotiations on the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement towards closure.

Commissioner De Gucht and Minister Fast had in-depth discussions on the trade deal and made substantial progress. Both sides will now instruct their negotiators to narrow the gaps on the outstanding issues, aiming for a deal in the coming weeks.

"I am pleased that our meeting at a political level has provided the momentum needed to spur on the negotiations into the home strait. It’s clear that there has been significant progress but some important work remains to be done”, stated Commissioner De Gucht.

Both Commissioner De Gucht and Minister Fast decided to meet again very shortly and to continue discussions until an agreement is reached.

Canada is the EU's eleventh most important trading partner whereas the EU, with its 27 states, is Canada's second-largest trading partner, after the United States. An economic study jointly released by the EU and Canada in October 2008 showed that a comprehensive trade agreement could increase two-way bilateral trade by €25.7 billion.

For further information:

**EU trade relations with Canada**

---

**Related headlines**

- 14/08/2012  
  CETA is not ACTA

- 15/12/2010  
  EU and Canada take stock of historic Free Trade Agreement negotiations

- 01/11/2009  
  EU and Canada start negotiations on trade agreement

**Canada**

EU Trade relations with Canada. Facts, figures, latest developments and archives.

**More information about Canada**

For more news headlines:

- More recent headlines in News and events
- Browse the News archive
EU and Canada move towards conclusion of trade negotiations - Trade - European Commission

Last update: 23 Nov 2012 |

Date: 26/11/2012; URL: http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=844