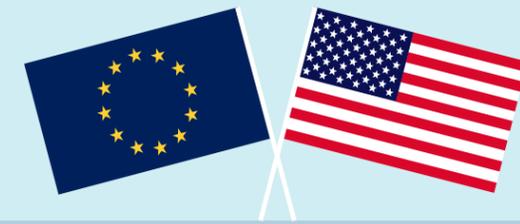


A stronger transatlantic relationship



The transatlantic partnership is founded on building bridges and tearing down walls. However, the international context is shifting, with new challenges surfacing that test the prevailing liberal order. An enduring transatlantic relationship will be essential to overcome these new challenges.



Trade and investment

Kickstarting transatlantic trade and investment will be vital to the global economic recovery in the wake of COVID-19. Transatlantic trade is beneficial for both the EU and the US, by growing the economy and adding millions of jobs.

Recommendations

- The value of trade relations must be seen in a broader light than the balance of trade in goods.
- The EU and the US must take coordinated action against unfair restrictions to foreign investments in third countries.



World Trade Organization

The WTO and its rulebook has helped open up international markets and raise standards globally. Without rules, and a functioning arbitration mechanism, we risk a return to anarchy.

Recommendations

- The EU and the US must join forces to modernise the WTO.
- The Appellate Body must return to full functionality as soon as possible.
- The indispensable role of the WTO as a negotiation body and an arbitration mechanism for the global economy must be maintained.



Supply chains

Interdependence is inevitable in a globalised world. Greater partnership will strengthen supply chains for generations to come. The COVID-19 crisis has exacerbated the importance of diverse and stable supply chains for essential goods and services.

Recommendations

- Increasing supply chain resilience and diversity must be done in a spirit of openness, and in close collaboration with industry.
- ‘Open strategic autonomy’ must not become economic protectionism by another name.



Healthcare

Innovation and long-term investments in R&D on both sides of the Atlantic have made the EU and the US global leaders in life science industries. Transatlantic healthcare needs a strong World Health Organization, just as the World Health Organization needs transatlantic leadership.

Recommendations

- Regulators and policymakers on both sides should cooperate to build on recent successes such as the EU-US Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) on pharmaceutical Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP).
- The implementation of the MRA provisions for vaccines must be accelerated to streamline procedures for COVID-19 vaccines.



Financial stability

Liquidity is the life-support of the global economy in the fight to overcome the effects of COVID-19. Transatlantic cooperation in financial services regulation has built resilience in the industry.

Recommendations

- The EU must implement the Capital Markets Union in order to overcome barriers to cross-border investment and complete the Single Market for financial services.



Digital economy

The transatlantic space is the heart of the global digital economy. A close EU-US cooperation on issues of mutual interest such as digital will ultimately benefit the global trading system.

Recommendations

- Transatlantic data flows are indispensable to the global digital economy. EU and US policymakers must work together to rapidly restore certainty for businesses by creating a successor mechanism to the Privacy Shield.



Security and defence

Strong cooperation in the security and defence sphere is instrumental to maintaining the transatlantic relationship. Open defence markets are essential to ensuring collective security and growth.

Recommendations

- The EU and the US must honour and, where possible, increase spending targets for the security, defence and space suppliers and sustain their security, defence and space industrial bases for resilience purposes.