

Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada and the European Union (EU)

More than a free trade agreement, the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) entered into with the European Union (EU) in 2013 will give Canada access to the world's largest market.

The EU is

- The largest market in the world with a **gross domestic product of \$18 billion**—nearly 10 times the size of the Canadian economy
- **500 million consumers** with an **average annual income of \$35,000**
- A single integrated market with **28 member states**
- The **leading commercial partner of 80 countries** worldwide
- **Canada's top commercial partner** and the principal source of foreign investment after the U.S.

The CETA

- Should boost trade by 20% and **inject \$12 billion into the Canadian economy annually**
- Will make Canada one of only a few countries with special access to the two biggest markets in the world—the European Union and the United States
- Is slated to **come into effect in 2015–2016**

CETA implementation: Next steps and anticipated timeline

Canada and the EU announced the official conclusion of negotiations on September 26, 2014. The process leading up to implementation of CETA is as follows:



Note: The above dates, provided for information purposes only, are based on information available at the time of printing.

CETA's impact on

- *Products*
 - More competitive exports due to the **immediate elimination of customs tariffs on Canadian exports**
 - **Lower prices** for European imports
 - **Reduced bureaucracy** through mutual recognition of certain product compliance assessment procedures
 - Business opportunities in key sectors like **agri-food, forest products and industrial, chemical and metal products**
- *Services*
 - Improved, privileged access to services in areas such as **information technology and communications, engineering, architecture, R&D, private training, law and technical services**
- *Investment*
 - A guarantee that **Canadian investors will be treated equally** means fewer risks for investors
 - **Review threshold** provided for by the Investment Canada Act **raised** to 1.5 billion for EU investors
- *Government procurement*
 - **Unrestricted access to the EU's and its member states' government contracts** for Canada and its provinces
- *Workforce*
 - **Clearer, more transparent rules** facilitating travel for professionals and investors
 - A chance for professional associations to enter into mutual recognition agreements

Key assets to promote our industry

- Our efficient integrated logistics chain and logistics network provides quick access to more than 200 million consumers via the St. Lawrence River.
- Admissible by U.S. customs as certified importers of record, Canadian forwarders and shippers have the authority to clear goods being sent from Europe to Canada and the U.S.
- Our highly-qualified and culturally-diverse workforce fosters a multilingual environment.



For further information on the implementation process

[European Commission](#)

[Delegation of the European Union to Canada](#)

[Gouvernement du Québec \[French only\]](#)

More details about CETA

[Government of Canada](#)

[Gouvernement du Québec \[French only\]](#)

[European Union](#)