



RAPID

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- **President Juncker addresses Asia-Europe Business Forum**
Today 14 July in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, President **Juncker** [addressed](#) the 15th Asia-Europe Business Forum. Bringing together business leaders from both regions, the Forum is part of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) which celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. In his speech, President **Juncker** set out his commitment to work for a global economy that is fair, transparent and governed by rules. On 15-16 July, still in Ulaanbaatar, President **Juncker** will attend the 11th ASEM Summit together with EU High Representative and Commission Vice-President, Federica **Mogherini**, and European Council President, Donald **Tusk**. Government leaders from both regions will discuss a range of global and regional issues including security, terrorism, climate change, migration, economic cooperation and sustainable development.
- **European Commission appoints new Head of Representation in Lisbon**
The European Commission has appointed Ms Sofia Colares Alves as the new Head of its Representation in Portugal. She will take up office on 16 July, bringing over twenty years of European and International affairs experience to the post. A complete press release for Ms Sofia Colares Alves is available [online](#)
- **Innovation performance compared: How innovative is your country?**
Today, the Commission released the 2016 results of the European Innovation Scoreboard, the Regional Innovation Scoreboard and the Innobarometer. Carlos **Moedas**, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, said: "*Leading countries and regions are supporting innovation across a wide range of policies from investment to education, from flexible labour conditions to ensuring public administrations that value entrepreneurship and innovation. The Commission is doing its part by promoting innovation across policy areas too. Not only that, we're also improving access to private finance through the €315 billion Investment Plan for Europe and the Capital Markets Union, as well as creating a new European Innovation Council.*" For further details on the results and the Commission's actions to support innovation, a [press release](#), [frequently asked questions](#), the [European Innovation Scoreboard](#), the [Regional Innovation Scoreboard](#) and the [Innobarometer](#) are available online.

- Antitrust: Commission takes further steps in investigations alleging Google's comparison shopping and advertising-related practices breach EU rules**

The European Commission has sent two Statements of Objections to Google. The Commission has reinforced, in a supplementary Statement of Objections, its preliminary conclusion that Google has abused its dominant position by systematically favouring its comparison shopping service in its search result pages. Separately, the Commission has also informed Google in a Statement of Objections of its preliminary view that the company has abused its dominant position by artificially restricting the possibility of third party websites to display search advertisements from Google's competitors. Commissioner Vestager is presenting these decisions at 12 pm CET today, which you can follow live [here](#). A full [press release](#) is available online.
- Commission publishes further TTIP documents in ongoing transparency commitment**

The European Commission is today publishing a record number of EU proposals from the ongoing 14th round of talks for a trade agreement with the United States, taking place in Brussels this week. As part of its drive for a more transparent trade and investment policy, the Commission is making these proposals public only days after submitting them to our negotiating partners. Yesterday, the Commission organised [a series of stakeholder events](#) at the fringes of the negotiations, where [interested stakeholders](#) were briefed on the status of the negotiations and exchanged views with the chief EU and US negotiators. Tomorrow at 15:00 in Brussels there will be a press conference with the two chief negotiators on the 14th round of TTIP negotiations, which will also be broadcast live on [Europe by Satellite](#). [Photos of the negotiation round](#) are also available.
- Annual Agri-food trade report 2015: EU first exporter worldwide**

The European Commission today published the Agri-food trade in 2015 report, which shows EU exports for agricultural products reached €129 billion in 2015. This means an annual increase of 5.7%, securing the EU's position as first world agri-food exporter with a net trade surplus of €16 billion. The entire output of the European Union's agricultural sector was valued at €410 billion in 2015. Agriculture and the food and drink industry together employ millions of people, accounting for 7.5 % of employment and 3.7 % of total value added in the EU, according to the [annual report](#). Although some Member States and sectors still suffered from the Russian ban and from low world market prices, the overall EU agricultural trade performance was positive in 2015. A [press release](#) on the annual report and the [monthly agri-food trade report for May](#) are now available online.
- Sommet Asie-Europe - les partenaires ASEM ont représenté en 2015 plus d'un tiers du commerce de biens de l'UE, déficit de l'UE de 277 milliards d'euros**

En 2015, les 21 pays non-AELE participant au Sommet Asie-Europe (ci-après dénommés partenaires ASEM) comptaient ensemble pour 37% des échanges internationaux de biens de l'Union européenne (UE), avec une part des partenaires ASEM s'établissant à 29% pour les exportations de l'UE et à 46% pour ses importations. Sur la décennie 2005-2015, l'UE a constamment accusé un déficit commercial, toujours nettement supérieur à 200 milliards d'euros, avec les partenaires ASEM. En 2015, il se situait à 277 milliards d'euros, en baisse par rapport au pic de 320 milliards d'euros enregistré en 2008. Un communiqué de presse EUROSTAT est disponible [en ligne](#).

- **Quarterly Report on the Euro Area published today**
The European Commission's Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs today publishes its [Quarterly Report on the Euro Area](#) (QREA), featuring in-depth technical analyses of economic issues affecting the euro area. [QREA Vol.15 No.2](#) will be published today at 15:00.

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Representação da Comissão Europeia em Portugal, Largo Jean Monnet, n.º 1-10, 1269-068 Lisboa
Telefones: geral (+351) 213 509 800; direto (+351) 213 509 820 / (+351) 213 509 833
Internet: <http://ec.europa.eu/portugal> - E-mail: comm-rep-lisbonne@ec.europa.eu

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