

# TAKING CHARGE OF TRANSATLANTIC TRADE: THE EU AS A GLOBAL LEADER

Transatlantic trade is a key strategic interest for the EU, with the US accounting for 20 % of all EU exports and 14 % of the EU's imports coming from the US. As transatlantic ties are under stress, the EU finds itself in a challenging position. The US is drifting away from the principles of the postwar liberal economic order and this makes it increasingly difficult to maintain constructive trade relations.

However, the disengagement of the US Administration also brings new opportunities. As the US further withdraws into a protectionist position, it is leaving behind a vacuum of economic power. In this context, the EU can further develop its position as the pacesetter in transatlantic and world trade, making the new situation a blessing in disguise.

This raises important questions about the EU's strategy to deal with this new situation: Is the EU ready to fill the shoes of the US? What can the EU do to develop a more proactive approach towards transatlantic trade relations? And how can the EU still engage constructively with the US in the future?

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

**THURSDAY | 21 MARCH 2019**

**17:30 H – 19:00 H**

**BELVUE MUSEUM  
PLACE DES PALAIS 7 | BRUSSELS**

WELCOME BY

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DISCUSSION WITH

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WORKING LANGUAGE **ENGLISH**

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