



## Internal Market and Trade

Expert Forum – Liberal White Book Europe 2030

11 September 2020, 09h30 – 14h40 (CEST), Zoom Meeting

### ABOUT THE EVENT

*Applying Liberal principles to potential Covid-19 influences on re-shaping globalisation: a game changer for the political drive to greater European integration?*

Free trade and open competition are the hallmarks of the liberal approach to trade but the Great Financial Crash of 2007/9 halted the relative rise in world trade. Now, the 'Covid Crash' threatens to reverse global trade due to restrictions on global supply chains - for national security reasons as well as reliability of supply. Can the EU stand against that trend – most importantly in its home market?

Are there different factors at work in goods markets and services as the Services Directive stopped short of a comprehensive opening of markets? Will banking union and capital markets union fill in two of the biggest gaps? Will the Covid Crash provide the political will to move forward by building on the institutional reforms of the Next Generation plan?

In the light of the growing climate crisis, how will free trade contribute to the net-zero targets given current norms of production / consumption / capital? Will there have to be a shift to cross-border sustainability via tactical implementation of a climate agenda that clearly de-risks the economy yet captures value through open geopolitical collaboration by public and private sector operations? Can it accelerate practical, integrated action that over-achieves against current targets in terms of both investment and innovation at the nexus of hard and soft systems in a manner that is both just and trustworthy?

With the next European Parliament elections due in 2024, the time has come to think about Internal Market and Trade and to develop and discuss liberal ideas for its further development looking ahead to the year 2030. This Expert Forum brings together experts from all over Europe for an open debate about the EU's Internal Market and Trade policy.

The event will be held under Chatham House rules and the event recording will only be made available to the author of the Liberal White Book.

## EVENT SCHEDULE

**09h25 Participants connect to the online Expert Forum**

**09h30 Welcome & Presentation of the Liberal White Book Europe 2030 project**  
Daniel Kaddik, Executive Director, European Liberal Forum

**09h35 Introduction to this Expert Forum**  
Robert Woodthorpe Browne, Chair, Paddy Ashdown Forum

**09h40 Welcome words from the Patron**  
Dita Charanzová, Vice-President of the European Parliament, Renew Europe Group

**09h45 Rethinking the Single Market post-COVID-19**  
Mario Monti, Senator of the Italian Republic - *What was the Single Market designed to achieve – and why?*

**10h30 Break**

**Moderator:** Chris Gleadle, CEO, Paddy Ashdown Forum

**10h35 Current State of Play**

Short input statements:

- Karl-Heinz Paqué, Vice-President Liberal International, President of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation
- Hans van Baalen, President, ALDE Party

*followed by a discussion among all participants.*

**Discussion topics:** *What does the European Commission intend to achieve for internal market and trade by 2025? Recent successes and areas for improvement. How should we respond to resurgent state aid during the Covid-19 pandemic and how can the Next Generation EU project enhance the Single Market?*

**11h35 Break**

**11h40 Free movement of Workers**

Short input statements:

- Matthew Saltmarsh, Senior External Relations Officer, UNHCR
- Sandra Parthie, Head of Brussels Office / Head of European Affairs, German Economic Institute (IW Köln)

*followed by a discussion among all participants.*

**Discussion topics:** *What should be the liberal approach to creating a true labour market within the EU, with common educational standards, acceptance of professional qualifications and systems for posted workers? How can we foster an exchange of experience for workers and encourage labour mobility?*

## 12h20 Break

**Moderator:** Graham Bishop, Chairman, National Council, European Movement (UK) and Council Member, Federal Trust

## 12h25 Trade in Goods

Short input statements:

- Svenja Hahn, Member of the European Parliament, Renew Europe Group
- Jacques Pelkmans, Associate Senior Fellow, CEPS and Professor, College of Europe and Goethe University Frankfurt
- Iana Dreyer, Founder and CEO, Borderlex
- Sir Martin Donnelly, Former Permanent Secretary of DBIS and Cabinet of Leon Brittan during finalisation of the Single Market programme

*followed by a discussion among all participants.*

**Discussion topics:** *What should be the liberal approach to trade in goods?*

1. *Internal aspects: What remains to be achieved in the internal market? How can we ensure common standards within the internal market (e.g. medical equipment)?*
2. *External aspects: Can the EU lead the way to WTO reform to rebuild globalisation? What progress has been made in trade negotiations with EU27 with third countries – will the EU set the example of openness? How can we link EU values to trade? What will be the impact of the Green Deal?*

## 13h25 Break

## 13h30 Trade in Services

Short input statements:

- Michael Mainelli, Professor, Alderman & Sheriff, City of London and Executive Chairman, Z/Yen Group
- Nicolas Véron, Senior Fellow, Bruegel & Peterson Institute, Washington, D.C.

*followed by a discussion among all participants.*

**Discussion topics:** *What should be the liberal approach to trade in services?*

1. *Internal aspects: what remains to be achieved? e.g. digital single market, transportation. Progress on extending the Services Directive?*
2. *External aspects: financial and non-financial services – representing three quarters of jobs in the EU? What is the impact of Brexit by 2025, 2030? What progress has been made in trade negotiations of the EU27 with third countries – will the EU set the example of openness?*

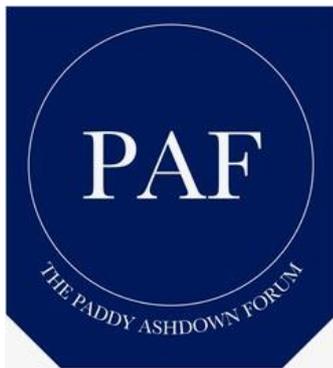
## 14h30 Conclusions

Frank Hoffmeister, Head of Unit, Trade Defence Investigations II – Anti-circumvention, DG Trade, European Commission

Author of the Internal Market and Trade chapter, Liberal White Book Europe 2030

## 14h40 End of Expert Forum

With the support of:



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