Report: Meeting with US Network of BusinessEurope, 15 June 2022

BusinessEurope’s US Network invited Rupert Schlegelmilch, Acting DDG of DG TRADE (RS), to discuss the state of play of the EU-US trade relations and notably the outcomes of the 2nd Trade and Technology Council ministerial-level meeting in Paris last week. RS informed them of the positive discussion among the TTC co-chairs and the outcome of the meeting. He underlined the commitment of the principals to turn the vast groundwork in each of the working groups into concrete results, incl. in areas such as export controls, supply chain resilience or trade facilitation. RS also noted that the Commission aims to hold the meeting of the Trade and Labour Dialogue and would revert to BusinessEurope. RS encouraged BusinessEurope and its members to remain proactive and also use the new facility, the Trade and Technology Dialogue to feed their ideas for TTC work.

In the Q&A section, on the stakeholder engagement, BusinessEurope was interested in the assuming role of the TTD, its interaction with the Futurium website and suggested it would be useful to publish the modalities how stakeholder can interact with TTD. Confederation of Finnish Industries and Swedish Enterprise representatives asked whether the Commission would need more concrete proposals and what would be the desired type of outcomes the TTC should deliver, which would help shape business input. Specifically, Ericsson was then interested in interaction between the EU-US Cybersecurity
dialogue and TTC and the plans for joint connectivity projects in third countries. On the general state of cooperation, BusinessEurope expressed some concerns over the felt lack of commitment from the US side on trade topics, incl. in the WTO, and was also interested in progress on other files, notably the Large Civil Aircraft and Global Steel and Aluminium Arrangement bringing hopefully permanent solution.

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