Rupert Schlegelmilch (DG Trade - RS) was invited to attend BusinessEurope’s US Network meeting to debrief on the state of play of the transatlantic trade relations and focusing notably on the preparations of the upcoming Trade and Technology Council ministerial in May. By way of introduction, RS explained that we were seeing an intensification of transatlantic work amid the current geopolitical circumstances. The Russian aggression against Ukraine was also making certain work strands (export controls, investment screening, supply chains resilience or fighting disinformation) more prominent and it can be expected that the TTC would also be an opportunity for a strategical discussion and political steer for future work. RS then provided a short overview of the considered work strands in the respective working groups.

In the Q&A session, members were interested in notably in the impact of the Ukraine on the work of TTC (Business Europe, Microsoft), new work strands on cybersecurity (Digital Europe), early warning mechanism on standards (Orgalim) or work on supply chains (CEFIC, BASF, SpiritsEurope). ACEA also raised concerns about the EV tax credits.