Mrs Cecilia Malmström  
Commissioner for Trade  
European Commission  
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200  
1049 Brussels  
Belgium  

Via email to: cecilia.malmstrom@ec.europa.eu;  

3 March 2017  

Dear Mrs Malmström,  

I hope I can persuade you to speak at one of our series of Brussels breakfast seminars, at which key politicians and policymakers converse in an informal atmosphere with senior business leaders and commentators.  

Over the past year or so, the Centre for European Reform and Kreab have together hosted Brussels breakfasts with senior European officials such as Jeppe Tranholm-Mikkelsen, Stephen Quest, Jean-Luc Demarty, Johannes Hahn and Carlos Moedas, ambassadors Ivan Rogers, when UK Permanent Representative to the EU, and João Vale de Almeida, EU Ambassador to the UN, and most recently Poul Thomsen, head of the IMF’s Europe department.  

The format would be for you to make some introductory remarks for 10-15 minutes. This would be followed by an off-the-record discussion, which I would moderate. The audience would be about 30-strong and normally consists of business leaders and a few thinkers, with the addition – if the speaker agrees – of one or two senior journalists.  

As for the subject of the breakfast, I would suggest something along the lines of “EU trade policy in the era of Trump” but we would be happy to go for any title that you feel comfortable with.  

The venue would be the offices of Kreab: Rond-Point Schuman 2-4, 1040 Brussels. The date would depend on your own availability, but we would like to suggest it take place in late March, April or May. The timing is generally 7.45 for 8.00, until 9.15, but we can shift that according to your wishes. Do let me know if you would be happy to do this.  

With best wishes,  

Charles Grant  
Director