23 June 2016 - Meeting with Rakuten to discuss digital trade and the e-commerce chapter in EU-JPN FTA / TiSA

Participants:
Rakuten: Rakuten Tokyo (Brussels based) and
DG Trade: B1

Rakuten is Japan's largest e-tailer and has made investments around the globe in Internet economies, ranging from the messaging service Viber to e-bookseller Kobo to Spanish streaming service Wuaki. Its European HQ is located in Luxemburg and they are active in DE, FR, ES, UK. They follow closely developments of digital issues in the EU.

The meeting was organised at the initiative of Rakuten.

Issues discussed:
• The main interest of Rakuten is to have free flow of data globally which, in their view, should be bound in the FTA with Japan and in TiSA. They were interested to know the position of the Commission on data flows in trade negotiations and its assessment of the e-commerce in TPP.