



HANDELS- OG
INVESTERINGS-MINISTEREN

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Dato
25 . november 2011

Invitation til handelspolitisk konference

Kære medlem af Europaudvalget

Den 8. december 2011 er jeg vært for en handelspolitisk konference om EU's fremtidige handelspolitik. Konferencen arrangeres i samarbejde med Dansk Industri, Den Danske Europabevægelse, samt Europa-Kommissionens Repræsentation i Danmark og Europa-Parlamentets Informationskontor i København og finder sted

Torsdag den 8. december 2011, kl. 11.00 – 16.00 i Folketingets Fællessal.

Som det fremgår af vedlagte program, er der lagt op til en spændende debat om en række aktuelle handelspolitiske spørgsmål.

Jeg håber, at du vil takke ja til min invitation og være med til at bidrage til en spændende debat om de handelspolitiske udfordringer, som Danmark og EU står overfor.

Med venlig hilsen

Pia Olsen Dyhr



CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE TRADE POLICY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

DECEMBER 8TH, 2011 AT 10:30 – 16:30

THE DANISH PARLIAMENT, CHRISTIANSBORG PALACE, FÆLLESSALEN

Organized by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in co-operation with the Confederation of Danish Industry, the Danish European Movement and the European Parliament Information Office in Copenhagen and the European Commission's Representation in Denmark.

The upcoming Danish EU presidency takes place at a critical time for European development. The effects of the economic crisis have proven to be an immense challenge for the EU and have created financial turmoil in many member states. Trade policy is key to ensuring employment and growth in the European Union and getting through the economic crisis.

As the largest economic actor in the world, and an important trade partner to the US and emerging economies like China and India, it is vital that the EU translate this economic strength into new market opportunities and more free and fair global trade. Therefore trade policy will be high on the EU agenda in the coming years.

EU trade policy is conducted on a background of rising global protectionism, ailing negotiations in the Doha Development Round and an increasing number of bilateral FTA's.

In addition, the Lisbon Treaty has meant significant changes to the handling of trade policy in the EU. Now, the European Parliament is fully involved through the ordinary legislative procedure. And the European Parliament must approve all trade agreements with third countries. Finally, it is a major ambition of the Lisbon Treaty to achieve coherence and synergy between the external policies of the EU as well as to achieve global leverage.



On this background and with the trade policy priorities for the upcoming Danish EU presidency as an underlying basis, the Conference will examine how EU trade policy can contribute to achieving the political and economic goals of Denmark and the European Union. How do we promote a positive global trade agenda in light of the situation in the world economy? How do we avoid mutual protectionism? The European Union has opened its public procurement – should the EU demand similar openness from the growing economies? Does the current strong political focus on growth and employment have significance for political clauses in bilateral trade agreements, including democracy and human rights? In what ways can trade policy contribute to long lasting stabilization and development of new markets while at the same time being a catalyst for change towards more open societies? Finally the global climate challenge is still with us – it remains imperative that we remain focused on how to use trade as a driver for global green growth, including initiatives such as the Sustainable Energy Trade Agreement.

The Conference will examine these and other relevant issues related to the implementation of the future EU trade policy as outlined in the European Commission Communication Trade, Growth and World Affairs, November 2010.

Programme

- 10.30 Registration
- 11.00 Welcome by Lars Thuesen, State Secretary for Trade and Strategy, Ambassador
- 11.10 Pia Olsen Dyhr, Minister for Trade and Investment
- 11.30 Karel De Gucht, EU Commissioner for Trade
- 11.50 Q&A moderated by Lars Thuesen, State Secretary for Trade and Strategy, Ambassador
- 12.30 Lunch
- 13.30 Introduction to the second part of the conference by Erik Boel, President of the Danish European Movement
- 13.35 Thomas Bustrup, Deputy Director General, Confederation of Danish Industry: How can trade policy contribute to European growth?
- 13.45 1st Panel discussion: EU2020: Growth and Trade Policy
- a) Hosuk Lee-Makiyama, Director, ECIPE
Multilateralism or bilateralism – advantages and drawbacks? What path for Europe?
 - b) Peter Brun, Senior Vice President, Group Government Relations, Vestas
How should European governments and institutions provide better international framework conditions for European business exports to third countries, including in the sustainable energy area?
 - c) Signe Ratso, Director of *inter alia* Market Access, DG Trade
Market access for European companies: What are the main challenges and how will Europe take action?





14.15 Q&A moderated by Peter Thagesen, Director International Market Policy, Confederation of Danish Industry

14.35 Coffee

14.50 2nd Panel: "European Trade Policy in a new dress; trade policy decision-making under the Lisbon Treaty.

- a) Pascal Kernies, Managing Director for European Service Forum (ESF)
How does business make itself heard in the European Parliament
- b) Morten Løkkegaard, MEP, ALDE
How will the European Parliament use its new competence in the area of trade policy?
- c) Margrete Auken, MEP, Greens/ALE
Is there a "left and right" in trade policy – or is there a cross-party consensus on free trade? How does the EP reconcile trade and development policies?
- d) Mieczyslaw Nogaj, Current Chairman of Trade Policy Committee
What experiences has the Polish Presidency gained during the presidency? What are the recommendations and priorities for to the upcoming Danish Presidency?

15.30: Q&A moderated by Soren Kelstrup, Ambassador, Danish Full Member of the Trade Policy Committee.

16.00 Reception and networking