

EU and Turkey will modernise customs union agreement

The EU and Turkey have agreed to modernise their 20-year-old Customs Union Agreement and to enhance EU-Turkey bilateral trade relations. The decision follows technical discussions held over the last 12 months that allowed both sides to understand each other's expectations and ambitions for new preferential bilateral trade relations. Both sides will now undertake their respective internal procedures to adopt this initiative and to seek the corresponding negotiating mandates. In the past, it has been confirmed to Freshfel that the renegotiation could also cover agricultural tariffs. The present customs union is an asymmetrical customs union, meaning that EU products are exposed to relatively high duties in Turkey while agricultural products from Turkey enter the EU duty free.

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