



THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON
October 16, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan:

In accordance with section 105(a)(1)(A) of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act), and pursuant to authority delegated to me by the President, I am pleased to notify Congress that the President intends to initiate negotiations on a trade agreement with the European Union (EU). We will consult closely with Congress in developing our negotiating positions to ensure that they are consistent with Congressional priorities and objectives outlined in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act. We intend to initiate negotiations with the EU as soon as practicable, but no earlier than 90 days from the date of this notice.

The United States seeks to support higher-paying jobs in the United States and to grow the U.S. economy by improving U.S. opportunities for trade and investment with the EU. Our specific objectives for this negotiation will comply with the specific objectives set forth by Congress in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act.

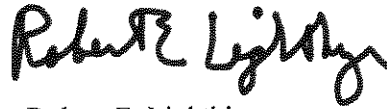
The economic relationship of the United States and the EU is the largest and most complex in the world, with over \$1.1 trillion in annual two-way trade. Despite this significant trade volume, U.S. exporters in key sectors have been challenged by multiple tariff and non-tariff barriers for decades, leading to chronic U.S. trade imbalances with the EU. In fact, the trade deficit in goods with the EU was \$151.4 billion in 2017. As indicated in the joint statement issued by President Trump and European Commission President Juncker following their July 25, 2018 meeting, the United States and the EU would like to pursue negotiations to strengthen their trade relationship to the benefit of all American and European citizens.

Our aim in negotiations with the EU is to address both tariff and non-tariff barriers and to achieve fairer, more balanced trade in a manner consistent with the objectives that Congress has set out in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act. We are committed to working closely with Congress, including on matters of scope, and to following the requirements of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act and the guidelines issued pursuant to section 104(a)(3) of that Act. Further, we recognize that effective implementation and enforcement of the commitments made by our trading partners under our trade agreements are vital to the success of those agreements, and we will seek provisions that ensure effective implementation and enforcement.

We are committed to concluding these negotiations with timely and substantive results for U.S. consumers, businesses, farmers, ranchers, and workers, consistent with U.S. priorities and the negotiating objectives established by Congress in statute. We may seek to pursue negotiations with the EU in stages

as appropriate, but we will only do so based on consultations with Congress. We look forward to continuing to work with Congress as negotiations with the EU begin, and we commit to working with you closely and transparently throughout the process.

Sincerely,

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Robert E. Lighthizer
United States Trade Representative



THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON

October 16, 2018

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
President Pro Tempore
United States Senate
104 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hatch:

In accordance with section 105(a)(1)(A) of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act), and pursuant to authority delegated to me by the President, I am pleased to notify Congress that the President intends to initiate negotiations on a trade agreement with the European Union (EU). We will consult closely with Congress in developing our negotiating positions to ensure that they are consistent with Congressional priorities and objectives outlined in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act. We intend to initiate negotiations with the EU as soon as practicable, but no earlier than 90 days from the date of this notice.

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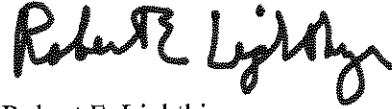
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Robert E. Lighthizer
United States Trade Representative



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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

October 16, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Schumer:

In accordance with section 105(a)(1)(A) of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act), and pursuant to authority delegated to me by the President, I am pleased to notify Congress that the President intends to initiate negotiations on a trade agreement with the European Union (EU). We will consult closely with Congress in developing our negotiating positions to ensure that they are consistent with Congressional priorities and objectives outlined in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act. We intend to initiate negotiations with the EU as soon as practicable, but no earlier than 90 days from the date of this notice.

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Robert E. Lighthizer
United States Trade Representative



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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
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October 16, 2018

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Pelosi:

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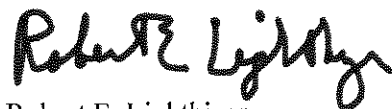
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