



UNICE

Union of Industrial and Employers' Confederations of Europe
Union des Confédérations de l'Industrie et des Employeurs d'Europe

**JOINT EUROPEAN - AMERICAN BUSINESS STATEMENT ON
TRANSATLANTIC TRADE DISPUTES**

22 March 1999

We, the undersigned business associations on both sides of the Atlantic, welcome the reports that the government of the United States and the Commission of the European Union are intensifying their discussions on the current U.S. - EU trade frictions. Quick and mutually acceptable resolution of these matters is in the interest of all parties.

The U.S. and EU enjoy a vast and complex trade and investment relationship, which is essential to the world economy, as well as to the prosperity of our own countries. We also share a vital interest in the strength and stability of the world trading system. This in turn requires an effective World Trade Organisation, with an efficient and respected dispute settlement system. We urge our negotiators to make every effort to resolve the current disputes as quickly as possible, and to demonstrate once again the ability of the EU and U.S. to act together effectively.

EU Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce in Belgium
European American Business Council
National Association of Manufacturers
National Foreign Trade Council
Union of Industrial and Employers' Confederations of Europe (UNICE)
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
U.S. Council for International Business