



Directorate General
for External Trade

European Commission



*The EU and Civil Society: Working together for fair and open trade
Trade, sustainable development and the global economic crisis*

26-27 May 2009 . Brussels

Challenges generated by the global economic crisis: A business perspective

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The economic crisis poses three challenges for European companies:

1. Tightened trade financing
2. Increased protectionism
3. Trade liberalisation delays



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Trade financing

- Shortfall in trade financing
- Risk of competition distortion

Recommendations

- MS should accelerate support schemes
- European Investment Bank intervention



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Protectionism

- Monitoring and transparency useful
- Risks remain

Recommendations

- Continued monitoring
- Action through Market Access Strategy



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Trade liberalisation delays

- Doha Round / WTO Accession
- Free Trade Agreements

Recommendations

- Continue EU commitment to free trade
- Explain benefits of trade liberalisation



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Thank you for your attention

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