

BUSINESSEUROPE



# Trade Seminar for Journalists from Latin America

*Experience of BUSINESSEUROPE*

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# BUSINESSEUROPE: 41 members in 35 countries



Austria



Belgium



Bulgaria



Croatia



Cyprus



Czech Republic



Denmark



Denmark



Estonia



Finland



France



Germany



Germany



Greece



Hungary



Iceland



Iceland



Ireland



Italy



Latvia



Lithuania



Luxembourg



Malta



Montenegro



Norway



Poland



Portugal



Portugal



Rep. San Marino



Romania



Serbia



Slovakia



Slovenia



Spain



Sweden



Switzerland



Switzerland



The Netherlands



Turkey



Turkey



United Kingdom

# What is BUSINESSEUROPE?

BUSINESSEUROPE



- ✓ The Confederation of European business, representative of more than 20 million small, medium and large companies
- ✓ A Social Partner

## Mission

- ✓ „Actively promote and represent business in Europe“
- ✓ „Advocate a favourable and competitive business environment to foster sustainable economic growth“

## Purpose

- ✓ Influence EU policies to create a business-friendly environment

## Pillars

- ✓ Members FIRST
- ✓ Staff: about 45 persons
- ✓ Supporting network of 42 companies (ASGroup)
- ✓ Alliance for a Competitive European Industry
- ✓ European Employers Network

# Key issues in international relations

## 1. Doha Development Round

- Industrial goods: formula; sectors; NTBs
- Services: new market access

## 2. EU-US Transatlantic Relations

- Transatlantic Economic Council
- Cooperation on NTBs

## 3. Bilateral EU Dialogues & Business Summits

- China, Japan, Russia, Africa

# Key issues in international relations

## 4. Free Trade Agreements

- Korea, India, ASEAN, MERCOSUR, Canada
- GCC, Andean, Central America, EPAs

## 5. Further issues

- Raw materials
- Development policy
- Revised Community Customs Code
- Reform of export controls regime
- Trade Policy Instruments

# EU-Latin America Trade Relations

- EU is Latin America's No2 trading partner
- Imports mostly primary goods/Exports mainly industrial products
- Trade in goods (2010): €164bn
- Trade in services (2009): €44bn
- EU FDI (2009): €315.5bn, 39% of region's total

# EU-Latin America Trade Relations

Most countries benefit from unilateral trade preferences under the GSP/GSP+ schemes...

...But will be graduated from the new GSP system in 2013...

...Need FTAs !

## EU-Mexico FTA

- The EU Mexico's second biggest export market
- October 2000: EU Mexico FTA
- FTA covers goods, services, public procurement markets, competition, intellectual property rights and investment
- Under review on agricultural goods, services and investment



## EU-CARIFORUM EPA

- October 2008: all CARIFORUM countries – except Haiti (December 2009) – signed an EPA with the EU
- 25 March 2009: The European Parliament gave its assent
- The EPA results in:
  - predictability and duty-free-quota-free (DFQF) market access into the EU
  - EU exports liberalization over a period of 25 years
  - improvement in rules of origin and WTO commitments in services
- EU development cooperation via the EDF (ex. Aid for Trade programmes)

# EU-Central America Association Agreement

- 22 March 2011: EU and Central America Association Agreement initialed in Brussels
- The Association Agreement: political and economic stability in the region, sustainable development and regional integration:
  - the creation of a customs union
  - trade-related technical assistance
- Has not yet entered into force

# EU-Colombia and Peru Trade Agreement

- EU second largest trading partner of the Andean Region
- Goods exports (2010): €7.9 bn
- Goods imports (2010): €12.2 bn
  
- Agreement expected to boost Colombia and Peru economies by close to 1% of GDP
  
- EU-Colombia and Peru partnership based on respect of democratic principles, fundamental human rights and the rule of law
  
- Not yet ratified

## EU-MERCOSUR FTA

- Hope for rapid conclusion
- 10% trade growth year/year
- Fears overblown:
  - EU Manufactured goods & services
  - MERCOSUR agricultural products

## EU-MERCOSUR FTA

- FTA ensures security in bilateral relations
  - Standstill against protectionism
  - Foster trade and investment
  - Remove tariffs and NTBs
  - Open services & procurement
  - Create growth and jobs!