



Mr Jean-Claude Juncker
President
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
1049 Brussels
Belgium

20 June 2019

Dear President,

EU-Switzerland relations

The EU and Switzerland have a long-standing relationship that covers a number of important areas and has a considerable economic importance for both.

The EU is Switzerland's main trading partner, whereas Switzerland is the EU's third trading partner after the USA and China. The EU has a positive trade balance with Switzerland both in goods €47,5bn and services €47,3bn.

In this context, we are very concerned by the recent political developments related to the process of ratification of the institutional framework agreement.

We believe the agreement will bring clarity and stability to our bilateral relation and this is positive news for businesses and citizens. It is important that both sides continue the dialogue and work to ensure that the institutional agreement is finalised and ratified as soon as possible.

In our view, decisions that lead to escalation should be avoided as they risk further delaying the process and creating frictions that might be difficult to overcome.

We are confident that both sides understand the importance of maintaining a close dialogue and finding a viable and rapid solution and hope that our view will be taken into account.

Kind regards,

Markus J. Beyrer