



EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION

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EFTA MINISTERIAL MEETING

Tromsø, Norway, 23 June 2025

CONCLUSIONS ON

STANDING COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The EFTA Ministers convened for the annual Ministerial meeting and discussed relations with the European Union. They agreed with the objectives identified by the Standing Committee to:

- Underline that the EEA cooperation is a values-based collaboration that has remained a strong platform for like-minded partners for over three decades. In a rapidly changing geopolitical context, marked by increasing global trade tensions, the EEA EFTA States and the European Union work together closely on pressing issues such as climate change, European competitiveness, economic security and the implementation of sanctions against Russia and Belarus.
- Ensure the swift incorporation of EEA-relevant EU acts into the EEA Agreement, continue to enhance internal processing methods with a view to further reducing the backlog, and focus on long-outstanding acts awaiting incorporation.
- Continue to assess EU cross-sectoral initiatives that impact the Internal Market while also serving policy objectives outside the traditional scope of the EEA cooperation, as these initiatives may have implications for the EEA EFTA States and their participation in the Internal Market.
- Highlight that the EEA EFTA States are an integral part of the Internal Market and European supply chains. Share the objective to turn decarbonisation into a driver of growth. The close and reliable partnership between the EEA EFTA States and the EU, based on equal access to the Internal Market, should not be adversely affected by developments concerning trade or economic security. The Internal Market consists of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway in addition to the 27 EU States, and it is in the shared interest of all the 30 EEA States to include the EEA EFTA States in its evolution.

- Engage at an early stage in the decision-shaping process of EEA-relevant EU legislation through participation in committees, expert groups and agencies, and through the submission of EEA EFTA Comments.
 - Pursue outreach activities that strengthen knowledge and awareness of the EEA Agreement, including by fostering increased transparency of EEA processes.
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