European
Commission

Did you know...?

Facts and figures
*about the **European Union** and the **G20***

Hangzhou, 4>5 September 2016

DG Communication – Spokesperson's Service

G 20

EU PARTICIPATION IN THE G20

Did you know that…

… the European Union is represented at leaders' level by the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, and the President of the European Council, Donald Tusk.

… the European Union set out its views on what this G20 should deliver in a joint letter of the Presidents of the European Commission and the European Council, sent to the EU Heads of State or Government on 29 August.

… moreover, on Wednesday 14 September 2016, Commission President Juncker will deliver his State of the Union address at the European Parliament, taking stock of achievements of the past year and presenting the priorities for the year ahead. The President will also set out how the Commission will address the most pressing challenges the European Union is facing (for more info: ec.europa.eu/soteu).

… the G20 leaders' process was born after a joint EU-US initiative back in 2008 to tackle the global financial crisis.

… the European Union is a full member of the G20 alongside four of its Member States: France, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom. In addition, Spain is a permanent invitee of the G20.

… the EU has its own seat at the G20 table because it is one of the largest global economic areas with specific competences in trade matters, economic policy and financial regulation, development, energy and climate change.

… China is the current holder of the G20 presidency. The eleventh edition of the G20 leaders' summit takes place in Hangzhou, on 4 and 5 September 2016.

… Germany will hold the G20 presidency in 2017 and will host the 12th edition of the G20 leaders' summit. In 2018, Argentina will be holding the G20 presidency. Previous summits were hosted by the United States (2008 and 2009), the United Kingdom (2009), Canada (2010), the Republic of Korea (2010), France (2011), Mexico (2012), Russia (2013), Australia (2014) and Turkey (2015).

EU-CHINA RELATIONS

Did you know that…

… the EU and China build on a broad-based framework of bilateral relations. They established official diplomatic ties in 1975. Under the umbrella of the annual EU-China Summit, EU-China relations today encompass over sixty substantive and sectorial dialogues.

… the EU-China 2020 Agenda for Cooperation, adopted in 2013, is the highest-level joint document in EU-China relations, setting out cooperation in the areas of peace, prosperity, sustainable development and people-to-people exchanges.

… on 22 June 2016 the High Representative/Commission Vice-President and the European Commission adopted a Joint Communication on elements for a new EU strategy on China, setting out additional building blocks for EU-China cooperation, providing opportunities for creating jobs and growth in the EU, and supporting China's own economic reform programme.

… discussions are ongoing between the EU and China related to the Chinese overproduction of steel, including the establishment of verification and monitoring mechanisms.

… China is a top EU partner for imports in 2015, accounting for a fifth (20.3%) of all EU imports. It is the second largest EU partner for exports in 2015 (9.5% of all exports), after the United States.

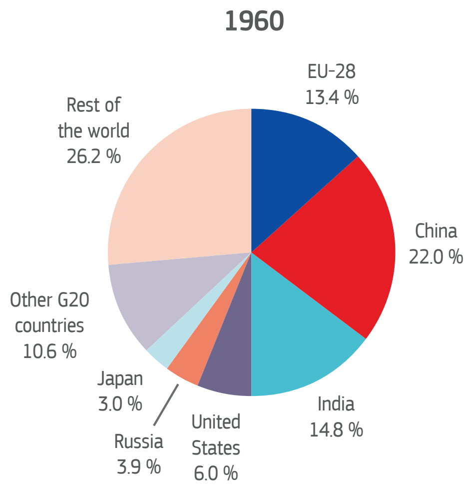
On the occasion of the last EU-China summit, which took place in Beijing in July 2016, Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, issued some data on economic relations between China and the EU.

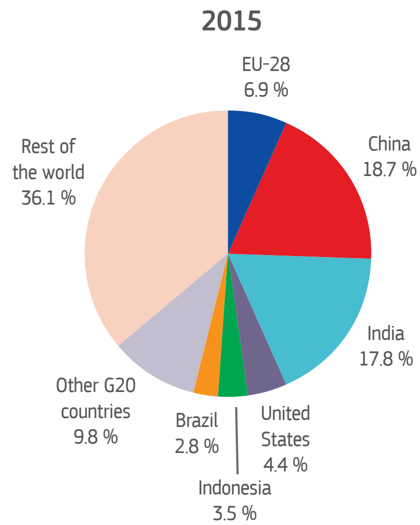
More on EU-China relations on the website of the European Union External Action Service: http://eeas.europa.eu/factsheets/news/eu-china_factsheet_en.htm

G 20

DEMOGRAPHY

With 509 million inhabitants in 2015, the **EU** accounted for just below 7% of the world population (7.3 billion inhabitants). **China** (1 376 million inhabitants or 18.7% of the world population) and **India** (1 311 mn or 17.8%) were more populous, while the **United States** (322 mn or 4.4%), **Indonesia** (258 mn or 3.5%) and **Brazil** (208 mn or 2.8%) accounted for a lower share of the world population than the EU.





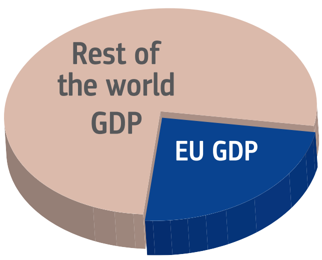
Source: Eurostat

More interesting statistical material on the EU and the G20 can be found in Eurostat's recent publication 'The EU in the world: A statistical portrait of the European Union compared with the 15 non-EU G-20 countries' (PDF version: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/en/web/products-statistical-books/-/KS-EX-16-001)

ECONOMY

Did you know that…

… the EU accounted for a 22.2% share of the world's GDP in 2015 (in value terms, see table 3).



G 20

... GDP per capita (in €) in the EU with its 28 Member States is 28,700 euro and in the euro area 30.700 euro, which places Europe among the five most performing economies (2015, see table 1).

Table 1: GDP per capita

GDP PER CAPITA	2015 DOLLARS	EXCHANGE RATE	2015 EURO
EU-28			28,700
EURO AREA (19 COUNTRIES)			30,700
GERMANY			37,000
FRANCE			32,800
ITALY			26,900
UNITED KINGDOM			39,600
ARGENTINA	13,589	1.1095	12,248
AUSTRALIA	50,962		45,932
BRAZIL	8,670		7,814
CANADA	43,332		39,055
CHINA	7,990		7,201
INDIA	1,617		1,458
INDONESIA	3,362		3,031
JAPAN	32,486		29,279
KOREA, REP.	27,195		24,511
MEXICO	9,009		8,120
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	9,055		8,161
SAUDI ARABIA	20,813		18,759
SOUTH AFRICA	5,695		5,133
TURKEY	9,437		8,506
UNITED STATES	55,805		50,298

Source: Eurostat, International Monetary Fund (World Economic Outlook database)

... in 2015 the EU had a lower government deficit (-2.4% of GDP) than, amongst others, Japan (-5.2% of GDP) and the United States (-3.7% of GDP, see table 2).

... in 2015, with 85.2% of GDP, the EU had a lower government debt than the United States (105.8% of GDP) and Japan (248.1 % of GDP, see table 2).

... in 2016, as economic recovery continues, growth in the EU is forecast to be 1.8%

Table 2: Inflation rate, Government deficit and debt

	INFLATION (% CHANGE ON PREVIOUS YEAR)		GOVERNMENT SURPLUS/ DEFICIT, % OF GDP		GOVERNMENT DEBT, % OF GDP	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
EU-28	0.5	0.0	-3.0	-2.4	86.8	85.2
EURO AREA (19 COUNTRIES)	0.4	0.0	-2.6	-2.1	92.0	90.7
GERMANY	0,8	0.1	0.3	0.7	74.7	71.2
FRANCE	0,6	0.1	-4.0	-3.5	95.4	95.8
ITALY	0,2	0.1	-3.0	-2.6	132.5	132.7
UNITED KINGDOM	1,5	0.0	-5.6	-4.4	88.2	89.2
ARGENTINA	N/A	N/A	-4.1	-7.4	45.1	56.5
AUSTRALIA	2.5	1.5	-2.9	-2.8	34.1	36.8
BRAZIL	6.3	9.0	-6.0	-10.3	63.3	73.7
CANADA	1.9	1.1	-0.5	-1.7	86.2	91.5
CHINA	2.0	1.4	-0.9	-2.7	41.1	43.9
INDIA	5.9	4.9	-7.0	-7.2	66.4	67.2
INDONESIA	6.4	6.4	-2.1	-2.5	24.7	27.3
JAPAN	2.7	0.8	-6.2	-5.2	249.1	248.1
SOUTH-KOREA	1.3	0.7	0.4	-0.2	35.1	35.9
MEXICO	4.0	2.7	-4.6	-4.1	49.5	54.0
RUSSIA	7.8	15.5	-1.1	-3.5	16.3	17.7
SAUDI ARABIA	2.7	2.2	-3.4	-16.3	1.6	5.8
SOUTH AFRICA	6.1	4.6	-3.8	-4.0	47.1	50.1
TURKEY	8.9	7.7	-1.2	-1.0	33.5	32.6
UNITED STATES	1.6	0.1	-4.1	-3.7	105.0	105.8

Source: Eurostat, International Monetary Fund (World Economic Outlook database)

Table 3: Share of world GDP, in value terms

GDP IN BILLION EURO	2015 DOLLARS (BN)	EXCHANGE RATE	2015 EURO (BN)	SHARE OF WORLD GDP
EU-28			14,635,153.9	22.2%
EURO AREA (19 COUNTRIES)			10,406,506.2	15.8%
GERMANY			3,025.90	4.6%
FRANCE			2,181.06	3,3%
ITALY			1,636.37	2,5%
UK			2,575.71	3,9%
ARGENTINA	585.62	1.1095	527.83	0.8%
AUSTRALIA	1,223.89		1,103.10	1.7%
BRAZIL	1,772.59		1,597.65	2.4%
CANADA	1,552.39		1,399.18	2.1%
CHINA	10,982.83		9,898.90	15.0%
INDIA	2,090.71		1,884.37	2.9%
INDONESIA	858.95		774.18	1.2%
JAPAN	4,123.26		3,716.32	5.6%
SOUTH-KOREA	1,376.87		1,240.98	1.9%
MEXICO	1,144.33		1,031.40	1.6%
RUSSIA	1,324.73		1,193.99	1.8%
SAUDI ARABIA	653.22		588.75	0.9%
SOUTH AFRICA	312.96		282.07	0.4%
TURKEY	733.64		661.24	1.0%
UNITED STATES	17,947.00		16,175.75	24.5%
WORLD	**73,170.99**		**65,949.51**	**100%**

Source: Eurostat, International Monetary Fund (World Economic Outlook database)

G 20

EU G20 PRIORITIES

SUPPORTING A COLLECTIVE RESPONSE TO THE REFUGEE CRISIS

In their joint letter to EU Heads of State or Government, European Commission President Juncker and European Council President Tusk remind that "a comprehensive global response to share the responsibility in addressing the unprecedented refugee and migration crisis and its root causes remains a priority". The G20 should continue to support international efforts, and contribute to achieving successful outcomes at the forthcoming UN summit on refugees and migrants, and the summit on refugees to be hosted by President Obama. The G20 has the expertise to make practical contributions through trade, development cooperation and refugees' access to education and job opportunities.

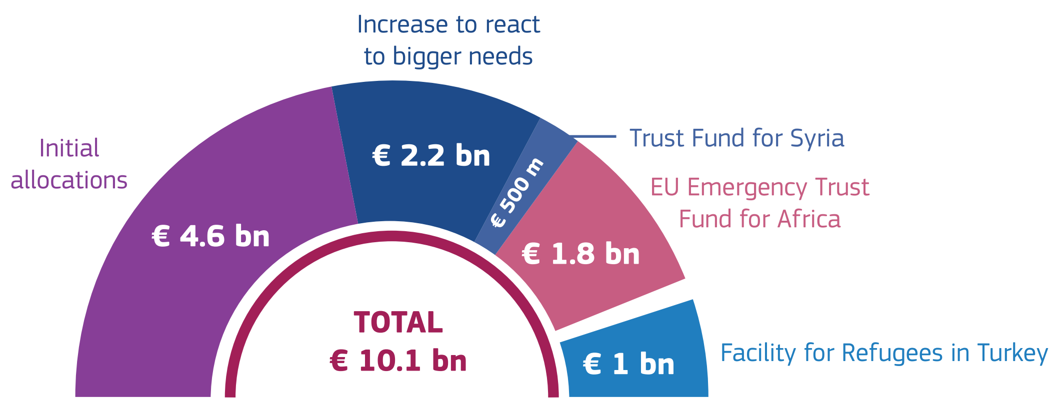
Did you know that...

... worldwide displacement is at the highest level ever recorded. The number of people forced to flee their homes has risen to 65.3 million compared to 37.5 million a decade ago.

... since early 2011, the main cause for this increase has been the war in Syria, now the world's single-largest driver of displacement.

... the European Commission allocated more than €10 billion from its budget in 2015-16 to address both the immediate and the long-term challenges of managing migration flows.

EU BUDGET RESPONSE TO THE REFUGEE CRISIS



… EU joint operations (Frontex; operation Sophia) have together rescued over 240,000 people in the Mediterranean in 2015-16.

… the EU is helping Syrian people within Syria as well as refugees and their host communities in Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Turkey and Egypt. At the London 'Supporting Syria' conference, the EU and its Member States pledged more than €3 billion for 2016, on top of the €6.4 billion mobilised for the Syrian crisis since 2011.

… the EU is also helping displaced people in Turkey through its Facility for Refugees in Turkey: €3 billion has been mobilised for 2016-2017 from the EU budget and Member States.

… in July, the Commission adopted a Special Measure of € 1.4 bn to help refugees and host communities in Turkey. This brings the total allocated to € 2.1 bn.

… the EU is working closely with Turkey to replace dangerous journeys across the Aegean with safe and legal paths to the EU for Syrian refugees. The EU-Turkey Statement of 18 March 2016 is delivering results. By August 1,061 Syrian refugees in Turkey had been resettled in Europe, while 1,566 irregular migrants to the EU had been returned to Turkey.

… the EU is addressing the root causes of migration by working with its regional partners, by, for example, setting up an Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, using €1.8 billion from the EU budget and the European Development Fund to promote development and security in strategic regions.

… that new migration partnerships with key countries, starting with Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Ethiopia, have been proposed.

More information on EU migration policy on the European Commission's priority pages: http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/migration/index_en.htm

MAINTAINING JOBS, GROWTH AND INVESTMENT AT THE TOP OF THE G20 AGENDA

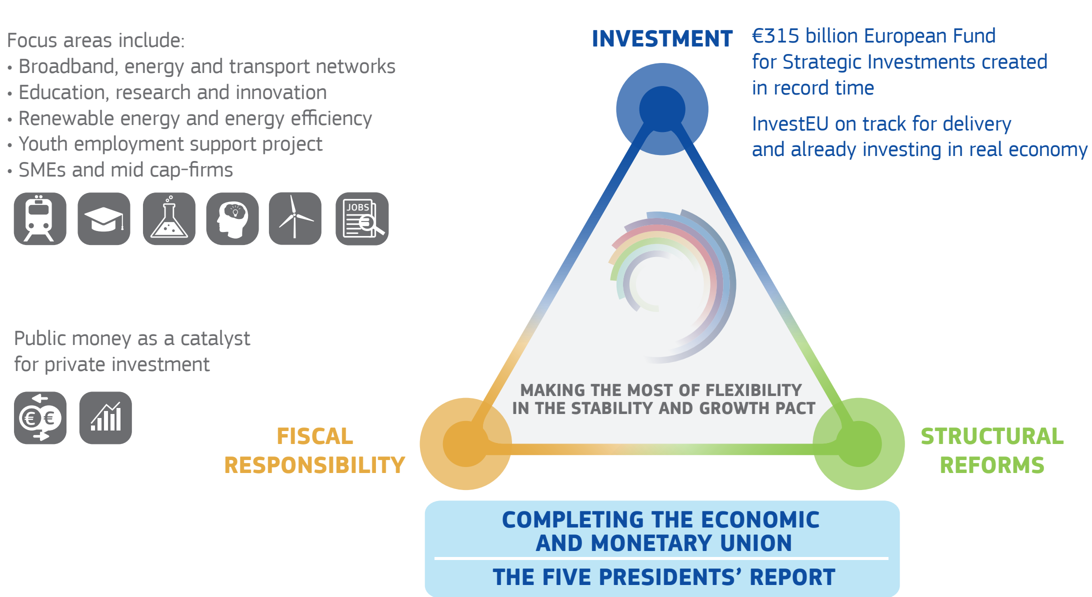
In their joint letter to EU Heads of State or Government on the EU's key issues for the G20 summit, Presidents Juncker and Tusk underline the importance of "a credible narrative for sustainable and inclusive growth, which puts to work all available policy tools – monetary, fiscal and structural”. Although our economies have recovered from the crisis, the global outlook remains uncertain and many citizens still do not feel the benefits of growth. A key deliverable will be the G20 Hangzhou Action Plan and the updated Growth Strategies, both Presidents write. They announce that they “will call for accelerating the implementation of these strategies, keeping in mind the objective the G20 set in Brisbane to lift global growth by 2% by 2018”; They equally welcome the G20’s “Enhanced Structural Reform Agenda”, with principles and indicators to measure progress on structural reforms.

Did you know that…

… investment remains a top priority for the EU, and we welcome the good progress the G20 has made to promote investment, which will support our investment priorities at home.

… the EU has been pursuing a clear strategy: to build a ‘virtuous triangle’ of responsible public finances, structural reforms and investment, that aims to mobilise private investment and get Europe growing again.

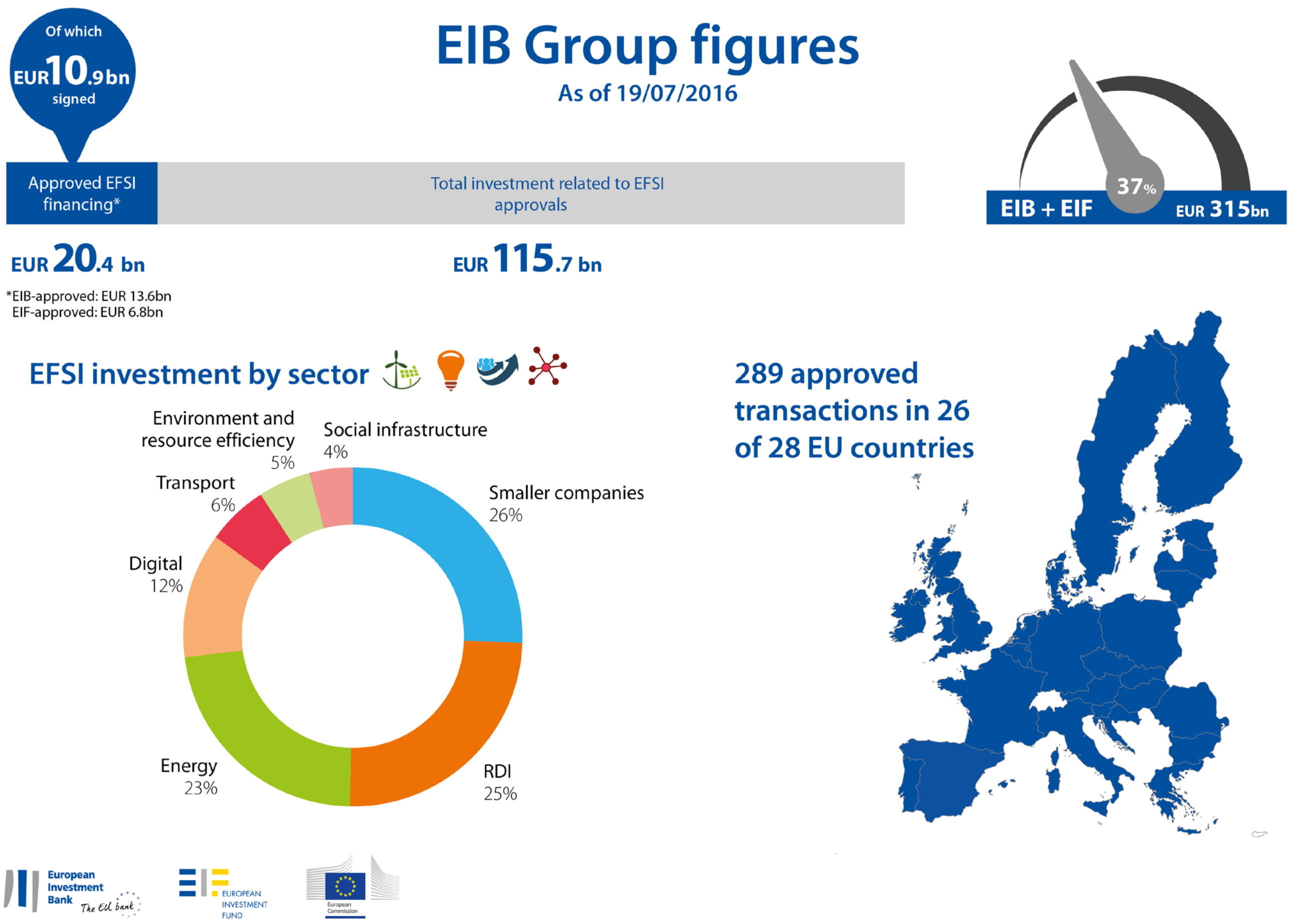
THE ECONOMY: A VIRTUOUS TRIANGLE



… after a take-off in record time, the Investment Plan for Europe “InvestEU” is firmly on track, having triggered €116 billion into in new investment across 26 Member States in its first year, created more than 100,000 new jobs already and supported more than 200,000 small and medium-sized enterprises.

G 20

... thanks to the early success of the plan, the Commission will propose to extend its operation beyond 2018.



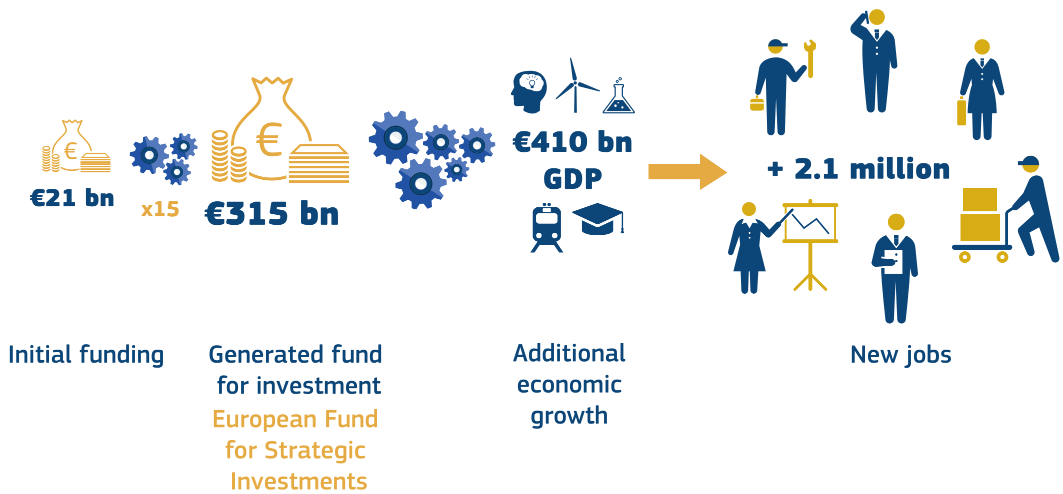
... the Investment Plan for Europe has three main features:

- the new European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) backed by an EU guarantee, to mobilise at least €315 billion of additional private and public investment until 2018, without creating new public debt;

- the European Investment Project Portal (EIPP), an online platform bringing together European project promoters and investors from the EU and beyond (http://ec.europa.eu/eipp) and the European Investment Advisory Hub (EIAH), a single access point to a wide range of advisory services in support of project identification, development and implementation, access to finance, the use of financial instruments, and capacity building (http://www.eib.org/eiah).

- an ambitious roadmap to make Europe more attractive for investment, remove regulatory bottlenecks and improve financing conditions. InvestEU goes hand in hand with other flagship Commission projects such as the Digital Single Market, Energy Union, Capital Markets Union and a fully integrated Single Market for goods and services.

InvestEU: FROM INVESTMENT TO JOB CREATION



The money for InvestEU does not solely come from reallocations from the EU budget. EU Member States – as well as non-EU countries – can contribute either at the level of the risk-bearing capacity, through an investment platform, or by directly co-financing certain projects and activities.

http://ec.europa.eu/invest-eu

DRIVING SOCIAL FAIRNESS AND INCLUSION

Did you know that...

... in March 2016 the European Commission presented a first outline of a European Pillar of Social Rights and launched a broad public consultation. The Pillar sets out a number of essential principles to support well-functioning and fair labour markets and welfare systems within the euro area.

... fair labour markets also need fair rules. That is why the Commission proposed in March 2016 a targeted reform of the Posting of Workers Directive, to promote cross-border service provision, while ensuring fair competition between companies.

… employment and social inclusion remain at the centre of the European Semester and the EU's Europe 2020 targets, a set of ambitious goals on strategic key-issues aiming, amongst others, at an employment rate of 75% of the 20-64 year-olds by 2020 and at least 20 million fewer people in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

… unemployment in the EU has fallen to its lowest level in seven years, and there are 7 million more jobs than in 2013.

… youth employment remains a top priority for the EU. It continues to roll out the Youth Guarantee, aiming to ensure that all young people receive an offer of work, training or education within four months of leaving school or becoming unemployed. The Youth Employment Initiative helps to implement the Youth Guarantee. So far, more than 1.4 million young people have been helped by this initiative.

MOVING FORWARD THE G20 WORK ON TAX TRANSPARENCY AND COMBATTING THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM

In their joint letter to the EU Heads of State or Government, Presidents Juncker and Tusk reiterate their firm stance on fighting tax avoidance and aggressive tax planning, urging the G20 to effectively implement agreed standards on exchange of financial information and on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS). The list of non-cooperative jurisdictions should be based on strong, objective international criteria, and additional steps should be taken to improve exchange of information on beneficial ownership.

Did you know that…

… for more than 10 years, the European Union has stressed that automatic exchange of information for tax purposes should be made a global standard and that this solution is now also recognised by the G20.

…the European Union remains at the forefront of the agenda on automatic exchange of information for tax purposes: in June, the EU's Anti-Tax Avoidance Directive was finalised, and in July the next steps to increase tax transparency and tackle tax abuse were set out. These measures will have a direct impact on the problems highlighted in the so-called 'Panama Papers'.

EU ACTION ON TAX TRANSPARENCY AND AGAINST TAX AVOIDANCE

Agreement on automatic exchange of information on tax rulings between Member States	*DEAL – October 2015* ✔
Agreement on automatic exchange of tax information of multinational companies between EU Member States	*DEAL – March 2016* ✔
New rules to tackle the most common methods of tax avoidance by large companies	*DEAL – June 2016* ✔
Agreements with third-countries (Switzerland, Liechtenstein, San Marino, Andorra, Monaco) to exchange information on the financial accounts of EU and third-country citizens	*DEALS* ✔
State aid investigations to uncover tax avoidance schemes	*ONGOING*
Process towards establishing a common EU list of tax jurisdictions which don't respect international tax good governance standards	*ONGOING*
Mandatory public country-by-country reporting of taxation information by multinational companies	*PROPOSED*

... these EU measures target the main forms of tax avoidance practiced by large multinationals and build on global standards developed by the OECD on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS).

... this legislation will put an end to the most common loopholes and aggressive tax planning schemes currently used by some large companies to avoid paying their fair share of tax. Moreover, the European Commission is continuing its campaign for corporate tax reform throughout 2016, with important proposals such as the re-launch of the Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base (CCCTB) still to come.

... an Action Plan for strengthening the fight against terrorist financing, was adopted by the Commission in February 2016, as part of its broader fight against tax avoidance, followed by a first series of implementation proposals in July.

... key actions adopted in July include the closing of loopholes that still allow tax evaders to hide funds offshore, and significantly increasing cross-border transparency on tax information on beneficial owners of companies and trusts.

G 20

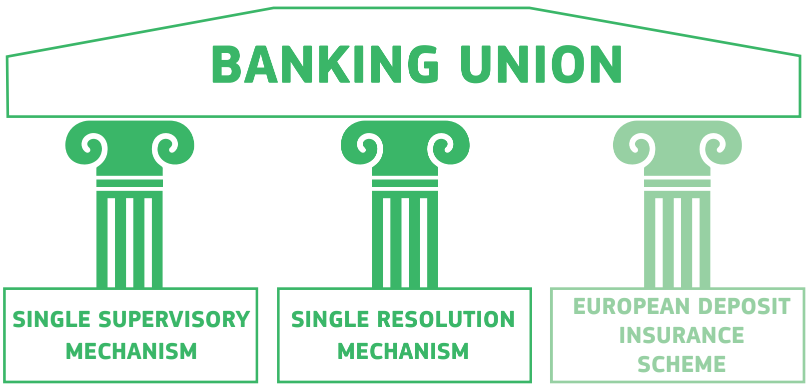
DELIVERING A RESILIENT INTERNATIONAL MONETARY AND FINANCIAL SYSTEM

Did you know that…

…the European Union aims to keep **financial regulation** high on the G20 agenda. In their letter to the EU Member States, Presidents Juncker and Tusk call upon the G20 to subject the intended refinements of the Basel III framework to a thorough impact analysis. Capital requirements should not significantly increase in any of the major regions of the world.

… the Banking Union is a key element of our Economic and Monetary Union (EMU). It was conceived to ensure that banks are more resilient to shocks, that they are better supervised, that savers' deposits are guaranteed and, should problems arise in the financial sector, they can be resolved more easily without using taxpayers' money.

THREE PILLARS OF BANKING UNION



… the Banking Union consists of the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM) and the Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM), both of which are mandatory for all euro area Member States and open to all other countries in the EU.

… the European Commission proposed the European Deposit Insurance Scheme as an additional safety net for savers across Europe.

… the euro is the second most important currency in the world, with a share of a fifth of global foreign exchange reserves and with almost sixty countries and territories around the world either directly or indirectly pegging their currency to it.

EURO AS GLOBAL CURRENCY

… the completion of Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) remains high on the Agenda of the European Commission, because it will enable the euro to achieve its full potential to deliver jobs, growth, social fairness and financial stability and enhance the convergence of economic, fiscal and labour market policies between euro are countries.

… in June 2015, President Jean-Claude Juncker, in close cooperation with the President of the Euro Summit, Donald Tusk, the President of the Eurogroup, Jeroen Dijsselbloem, the President of the European Central Bank, Mario Draghi and the President of the European Parliament, Martin Schulz, presented an ambitious and yet pragmatic roadmap for completing Europe's Economic and Monetary Union. This "Five Presidents' Report" proposes concrete steps for turning the vision for a deeper and fairer economic, financial, fiscal and political union into a reality.

SHARING THE BENEFITS OF OPEN TRADE

Did you know that…

… trade remains a key component of the Commission's strategy for jobs, growth and investment. The EU is one of the world's most open economies. Open trade strengthens its economy, creates jobs, gives consumers more choice and buying power, and helps European firms compete abroad.

…the EU is the largest exporter and importer of goods and services in the world. Small and medium-sized businesses play an important role, with over 600 000 of them accounting for one third of total EU exports. EU exports provide jobs for 31 million Europeans, six million of them in small and medium-sized businesses. Overall, one in seven jobs in the EU depends on exports.

G 20

... close to three fifths (59.0 %) of all EU 28 exports of goods are destined for G20 members, most notably the United States (20.7 % share), China (9.5 %) and Russia (4.1 %). Collectively, the G20 members provide over three fifths (63.3 %) of the EU 28's imports of goods, with China (20.3 %), the United States (14.4 %) and Russia (7.9 %) being the main origins.

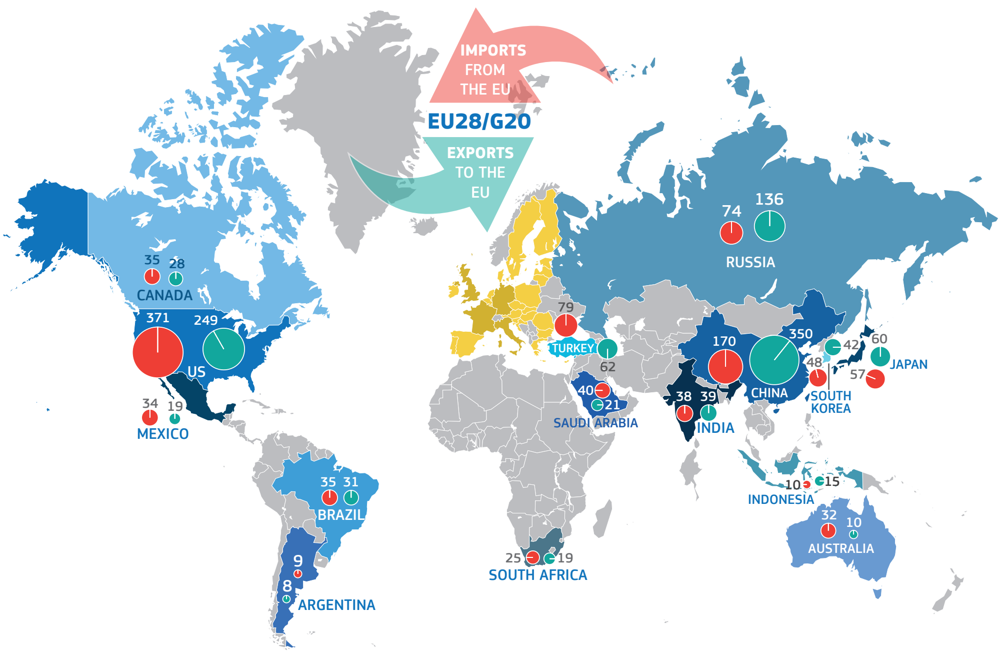
... it is the G20, as Presidents Juncker and Tusk write in their letter to the EU Heads of State or Government, that should provide "guidance for the future global trade and investment agenda": "The pledge to resist protectionism should not only be renewed but reinforced in practice".

... growth of trade and foreign investment has globally been slowing down, and the G20 should address this issue. The EU is committed to further open the markets and to level the playing fields, all while insisting on reciprocity and fairness.

... on the matter of overcapacity, the EU points out that "urgent and effective action is needed to cut overcapacity" in the steel and other sectors, including by tackling subsidies and other market-distorting measures that have contributed to it.

... the EU also calls for a swift ratification and full implementation of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement, and for opening up discussions in the WTO to new issues such as digital trade, investment or export restrictions.

EU28/G20 MEMBERS EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF GOODS IN 2015 (IN BILLION €)



Source: Eurostat

… The European Union's trade and investment strategy of 2015, entitled 'Trade for All: Towards a more responsible trade and investment policy', bases the EU trade policy on three key principles:

1. Effectiveness: Making sure trade actually delivers on its promise of new economic opportunities. That means addressing the issues that affect today's economy, which involves services and digital trade. It also means including provisions for SMEs in future trade agreements.

2. Transparency: Opening up negotiations to more public scrutiny by publishing key negotiating texts from all negotiations, as has been done in the trade negotiations with the US.

3. Values: Using trade agreements as levers to promote European values like sustainable development, human rights, fair and ethical trade and the fight against corruption. This means including rules on anti-corruption rules or labour standards in future trade agreements with third countries.

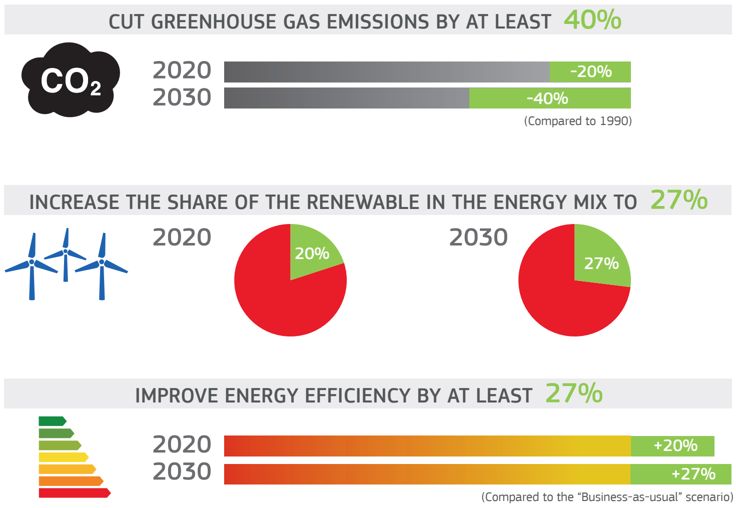
More information on the EU's Trade strategies: http://ec.europa.eu/trade/

CLIMATE ACTION AND ENERGY: MAKING THE TRANSITION TO A LOW-CARBON, SECURE AND COMPETITIVE ECONOMY HAPPEN

The EU has been on the forefront in pushing for a global deal for climate change in Paris, last December. Now is the time to focus on ratification and, even more important, implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Did you know that…

… in the margins of the Paris Agreement, the EU has tabled the most ambitious contribution so far, in line with the objective of limiting temperature increases to well below 2 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels.



... the EU's climate policy is based on an EU-wide carbon market (the EU Emissions Trading System), ambitious yet fair national greenhouse gas reduction targets for the sectors outside the Emissions Trading System, and an energy policy to make the EU the world's number one in renewable energy.

... the EU has already cut emissions by 24% since 1990 and has set clear targets for 2030:

- to cut greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40%;
- to have at least 27% of EU energy consumption from renewables;
- to improve energy efficiency by at least 27%.

More info on the EU's Climate action policies: http://ec.europa.eu/clima/index_en.htm

IMPLEMENTING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Did you know that...

... the EU remains the world's largest provider of **development assistance**. In 2015 alone, the EU and its Member States collectively provided €68.2 billion of development assistance to partner countries – more than all other donor countries combined.

... the EU played an important role in shaping the **2030 Agenda** and the **Addis Ababa Action Agenda**, which aim to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development. The EU is committed to implementing the 2030 Agenda by:

- helping developing countries to **mobilise more domestic resources**, improve public finance management and ensure debt sustainability, notably, though its new approach ‘collect more spend better’. The EU provides an average of EUR 140 million annually to support domestic public finance in these countries.

- adopting an integrated approach to key sectors e.g. trade (by importing € 860 billion annually from developing countries), science, technology and innovation (EU’s € 77 billion research and innovation programme also open for participation from developing countries), sustainable agriculture and energy (The EU helps to lift **500 million people out of energy poverty** by 2030)

... the EU is leveraging more development funding through **blending** and seeking further **partnerships with the private sector**.

... in the coming months, the Commission will make a proposal for a new and ambitious **External Investment Plan** in order to mobilise investments in developing third countries, building on the experience of the successful Investment Plan for Europe.

... the EU will also continue to play a leading role in implementing the 2030 Agenda with concrete contributions: the new initiative on the circular economy, the EU Energy Union, the follow-up to the Paris Climate Agreement, a reformed Common Fisheries Policy, the reformed Common Agricultural Policy, the European pillar of social rights, our activities on Corporate Social Responsibility for example along global supply chains, and our strategic frameworks for gender equality actions.

More on the EU’s International cooperation and development policies:
http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/home_en

THE EU AT YOUR SERVICE

Did you know that…

… the EU Newsroom (http://europa.eu/newsroom/index_en.htm) is the European Union's online media hub, where journalists can retrieve and subscribe to all press releases, calendars, audiovisual materials and useful information of all EU institutions and bodies. In addition, the European Commission's Press Release Database (http:// europa.eu/rapid/latest-press-releases.htm) and the Commission's News Page (http://ec.europa.eu/news/index_en.htm) are important sources.

… "Europe by Satellite" (Ebs) (http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/ebs) covers EU news in Brussels and abroad and distributes free of charge TV footage to broadcasters, journalists and social media.

… the Eurobarometer (http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm) is the major reference point for updated public opinion trends on everything from citizens' perception of the EU to which policies matter to them.

… the European Commission's Visitor's Centre is a key communication tool giving its visitors an insight into the work and functioning of the Commission as the executive of the EU while explaining our policies and main priorities and that it receives 50,000 visitors a year.

… the European Commission can organise information seminars/events for journalists (currently 35-60 journalist seminars are organised every year) on the political priorities of the Commission. The seminars are designed to give media professionals the background information to better understand decision-making process and key EU policies.

… all EU publications can be ordered or downloaded through the website https://bookshop.europa.eu/en/home/. EU Bookshop is an online bookshop, library and archive of publications dating back to 1952.

NA-01-16-822-EN-N