

FTAs and Other Trade Deals

Economist, “The art of the deal: Rumours of the trade deal’s death are greatly exaggerated,” *The Economist*, June 13, 2024.

- Have FTAs ceased to be created, or only slowed down, and if so why?
- Who is continuing to do them?
- How is India “streamlining” their new deals?
- What sorts of deals are mentioned that are not traditional Free Trade Agreements?

USMCA:

Kirby, Jen, “USMCA, Trumps New NAFTA Deal, Explained in 600 Words,” *Vox*, July 1, 2020.

- How big a change is USMCA compared to NAFTA?
- What industry or product seems to have gotten the most attention in the changes made to USMCA?
- How are the rules of origin for cars and car parts changed in USMCA compared to NAFTA?
- What is the “rapid-response mechanism”?

Campbell, Peter, “Mexico trade deal threat poses risk to prices of US pick-ups, warns Chrysler boss,” *Financial Times*, April 27, 2024.

- What has Trump said he will do to imports of Chinese cars?
- Why does any of this threaten the USMCA?
- Does China make any cars in Mexico?
- The source quoted here predicts both higher car and truck prices and increased immigration from Mexico if this is done. Why?
- When is USMCA scheduled for review?

CPTPP:

Hayashi, Yuka, “U.S. on Sidelines as China and Other Asia-Pacific Nations Launch Trade Pact,” *Wall Street Journal*, January 1, 2022.

- How many countries are in RCEP, and how does it compare in size to other trade agreements?
- Who initiated the negotiations for RCEP?
- Over what period are the tariff reductions of RCEP scheduled?
- Does it eliminate all tariffs among the countries?
- What rule of origin is applied in RCEP?

Edmond, Charlotte, "The United Kingdom Is Set to Join the Trans-Pacific Free Trade Pact. Here's What You Need to Know," World Economic Forum, April 3, 2023.

- How many countries are in the CPTPP including UK, and how many will be in it after those who've applied join?
- Will all tariffs be removed for trade among these countries?
- By how much does UK GDP stand to grow as a result of joining the CPTPP?
- What criticism is mentioned?

EU & Other:

Bounds, Andy, "EU Seals Chile Trade Deal That Will Improve Bloc's Access to Key Minerals," *Financial Times*, December 9, 2022.

- Will Chile remove all tariffs on EU exports?
- Will the EU remove all tariffs on Chile?
- What objections had to be overcome to achieve this agreement?
- Is this just a simple FTA dealing only with tariffs?
- What does Chile hope this will do for its economy?
- Is this a done deal, or do more things have to happen for it to be final?

Fildes, Nic and Andy Bounds, "Australia and EU fail to reach free trade deal," *Financial Times*, October 30, 2023.

- For how long had Australia and the EU been negotiating a trade deal?
- After this impasse, when is the earliest that a deal might be reached, and why?
- What issues seem to have blocked the agreement?
- What other trade agreement efforts are mentioned here?

Bounds, Andy, "Brussels to proceed with LatAm trade deal despite French objections," *Financial Times*, December 10, 2023.

- Who negotiates trade agreements between the EU and other countries, and how are they then approved?
- Who leads the negotiations for the EU?
- What does French President Macron not like about what has been negotiated?
- Is the EU doing anything for the environment?
- What others are mentioned as for or against the pact?
- When is Dombrovskis hoping for a deal to be done?

Optional to Read:

Bounds, Andy and Andres Schipani, "EU Agrees Trade Deal with Kenya as Brussels Aims to Boost Africa Ties," *Financial Times*, June 14, 2023.

- Does this bring down tariffs on EU imports from Kenya?
- Does it bring down tariffs on Kenya imports from the EU?
- Does it deal with more than just tariffs?

UK & Other:

Fedor, Lauren and James Politi, "US Calls for Revived UK Trade Talks After Northern Ireland Deal" *Financial Times* March 3, 2023.

- Why was the Windsor Framework important for getting negotiations on a UK-US FTA?
- What action was actually taken toward that objective?
- Has the Biden administration said it wants to pursue this?

Edgington, Tom, "Trade deals: What has the UK done since Brexit?," *BBC Verify*, January 26, 2024.

- Why does the UK need new FTAs after Brexit?
- How many FTAs has UK signed since Brexit?
- What is a "rollover" FTA?
- How many new FTAs has UK done, and do they cover lots of trade?
- What bigger deal is likely soon?
- Since UK now has an FTA with the EU, is this the same for trade as being an EU member?
- What is the status of an FTA between the UK and Canada?

US and Other:

Economist, "The Great Steeplechase: America Is Losing Ground in Asian Trade", *the Economist*, June 15, 2023.

- What are the two trade agreements that are compared here?
- Which of them reduces tariffs the most?
- What does IPEF mainly do?
- What does RCEP mainly do?
- What is taken to signal that the US will do little in the near future to liberalize trade?

Beattie, Alan, "The US Trade Pledge to the Indo-Pacific Is Empty," *Financial Times*, June 8, 2023.

- How many countries other than the US are included in this agreement?
- What new bodies does it set up, and with what purpose?
- Why does this author say that this agreement can accomplish little?
- Since IPEF is "empty," has it met no resistance?

Areddy, James T., "U.S., Taiwan Reach Trade Deal as Tensions with China Simmer," *Wall Street Journal*, May 18, 2023.

- What does the agreement cover? What does the agreement NOT cover?

- Why is the agreement not an FTA?
- When did US cease formal diplomatic relations with Taiwan, and why?

Other:

Daniels, Joe and Joe Leahy, "China Deepens Ties in Latin America with Ecuador Free Trade Agreement," *Financial Times*, May 11, 2023.

- With what Latin American countries did China have FTAs before this?
- Why does Ecuador prefer having an FTA with China rather than the US?
- Will this FTA be ratified in Ecuador?
- Does Ecuador export more to China or to the US?

Lawal, Shola, "Can Africa's new free trade treaty boost business on the continent?," *Al Jazeera*, February 16,, 2024.

- How many countries are part of the African Union, and how many of these signed the AfCFTA?
- How does intra-Africa trade compare to intra-Asia, intra-North American, intra-South America, and intra-Europe?
- How is AfCFTA supposed to change this?
- Is there any other policy mentioned to encourage manufacturing in Africa?
- Has AfCFTA so far increased any intra-Africa trade?
- What does it mean that "AfCFTA shuns informal trade on the continent?"