

CEFTA

HERE TO OVERCOME CHALLENGES

By increasing the size of the market, CEFTA enables its Parties to capture the full potential benefits of increasing returns to scale and economies of specialization. Moreover, by ensuring transparent rules, regulations and trade related information, it provides favourable investment climate.

Within the scope of trade in services, the CEFTA agreement will seek to facilitate electronic commerce in order to bring bigger markets close to the smallest companies.

Shopping online will become easier, cheaper and more secure. Start-ups and young innovative people will have the opportunity to offer their products not to one - but to seven markets. Additional efforts are made at this very moment to ensure that the Agreement is fully implemented and to bring out all the opportunities it has to offer demonstrating the crucial relevance of CEFTA.

CEFTA Contacts

CEFTA Secretariat

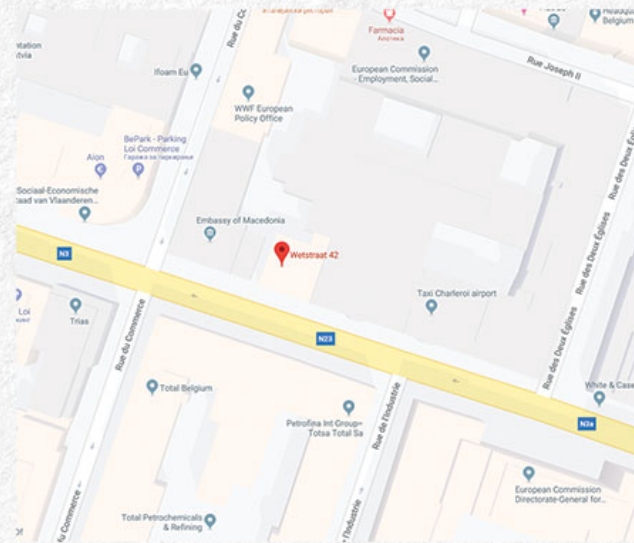
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FRAMEWORK FOR ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT



CEFTA FRAMEWORK FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Central European Free Trade Agreement 2006 was signed on 19th of December that year aiming to liberalise and further facilitate trade among the parties

CEFTA 2006 has replaced the network of approximately 40 bilateral Free Trade Agreements in the SEE Region.

The CEFTA Parties have agreed to focus their work in four priority areas: trade facilitation, trade in services, investment and transparency, in order to boost socio-economic development through trade development and investment promotion.

By 2015 all trade in goods, including agricultural products, had been fully liberalised.

CEFTA MAKES REGIONAL TRADE HAPPEN

Following the full liberalisation of trade in goods, CEFTA activities focused on further facilitation of trade and thereby decreasing the costs of trade and production. Combined with a positive environment for investments created by this approach, these activities will enhance the integration of the parties into the EU and the world economy.

Trade in services provides industry with a key asset for growth – a market which is large enough.

This is exactly why CEFTA parties decided on a formal agreement on trade in services which guarantees that certain barriers to trade are removed forever. Further ones will be removed in the future.

CEFTA AN INSTRUMENT FOR INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

In 2010, the Systematic Exchange of Electronic Data (SEED) was established. A new project, SEED+, started in 2019 in order to upgrade the current system.

In April 2018 a comprehensive Additional Protocol to the Agreement on Trade Facilitation (AP5) became operational. Full cumulation and duty drawback within CEFTA, implemented as of July 1st 2019, provide for flexible conditions for obtaining an origin of the product.

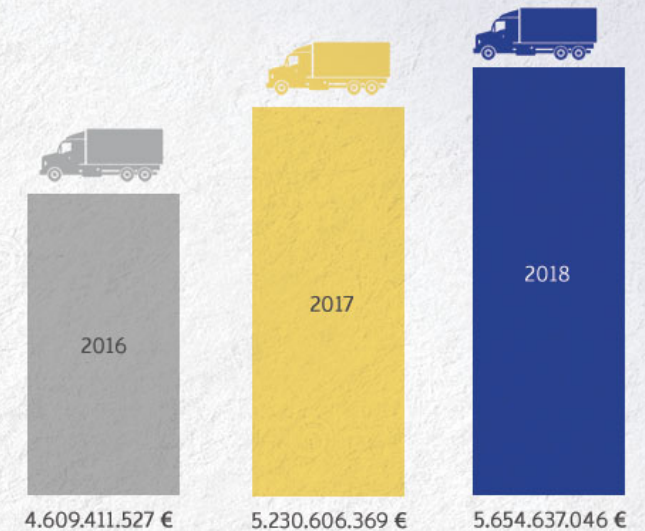
Substantial progress in the liberalisation of trade in services was made in 2019 by concluding negotiations on Additional Protocol 6 on Trade in Services.

Significant advancement has been made in simplifying the border procedures through the mutual recognition programmes (AEO, border documents in fruits and vegetables).

There has been substantial progress on introducing a risk management system in cross-border trade in goods.



CEFTA Region Exports 2016 – 2017 – 2018



Increase of Exports 2016–2017 and 2017-2018

