



NALED - INTRODUCTORY REMARKS AND OVERVIEW [↗](#)

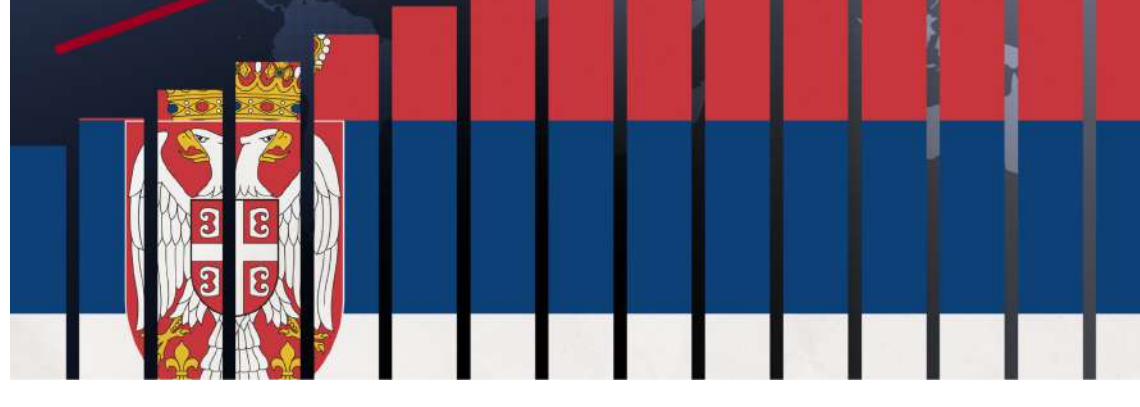
The Trade Newsletter is published on a bi-monthly basis, providing a comprehensive overview of the most relevant foreign trade developments in Serbia and globally, of importance to the domestic economy. The content of the newsletter is structured around key thematic areas, ranging from national trade trends and global developments within the framework of the World Trade Organization, to the CEFTA region and the EU's external trade policy, as well as relations with other trading partners. This systematized overview is prepared within the project [“Enhancing Competitiveness Through More Effective Public Procurement and Sustainable Supply Chains \(ESGs\)”](#), funded by Sweden and implemented by NALED.

SERBIA [↗](#)



Solutions sought for regional drivers: EES on the horizon, long-term visas in focus

The situation regarding the full implementation of the Entry/Exit System (EES) for recording entry and stay within the Schengen Area, planned for 10 April, remains unresolved in relation to professional drivers. Following the January blockades at Schengen borders, which lasted just over four days and during which estimated daily losses to the domestic economy amounted to approximately EUR 92 million, transport associations have announced the possibility of renewed blockades starting from 14 April.

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Conclusion and announcements of new Free Trade Agreements of the Republic of Serbia

Serbia has continued its efforts to expand its network of free trade agreements, providing Serbian exporters with access to foreign markets under preferential conditions.

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Potential effects of the conflict in the Middle East on oil supply in the Republic of Serbia

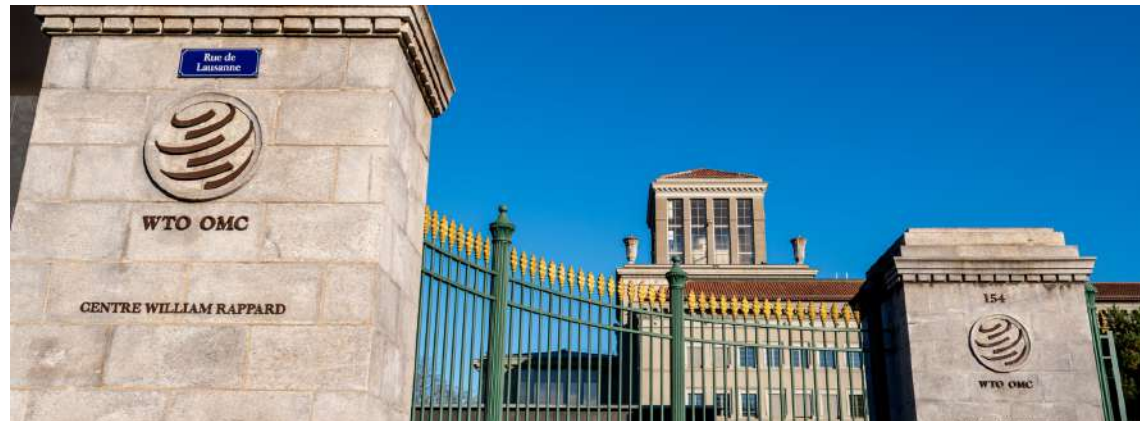
The escalation of the conflict in the Middle East, which began on 28 February 2026 with attacks by the United States and Israel on Iran, has caused significant disruptions in the global energy market. For Serbia, one of the key destabilizing factors stemming from these developments is the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz, through which more than one-third of globally traded oil is transported.

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Green Lanes for faster cross-border flow of goods: Serbia and Bulgaria signed a Memorandum of Understanding on electronic data exchange

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Escalation of the conflict in the Middle East puts additional pressure on global trade prospects

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14th WTO Ministerial Conference concluded in Cameroon: progress without final agreement - key issues remain unresolved

The 14th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC14) began on 26 March and concluded in the early hours of 30 March in Cameroon. One of the main issues at the forefront of MC14 was WTO reform, aimed at addressing the key challenges facing the organization and safeguarding its relevance in the context of evolving global developments and changes in the international trading environment.

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EU Foreign Trade Policy [↗](#)



New Rules for chemical exports to the European Union take effect in 2026

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New restrictions on bee-harming pesticides in food imports to the EU entered into force

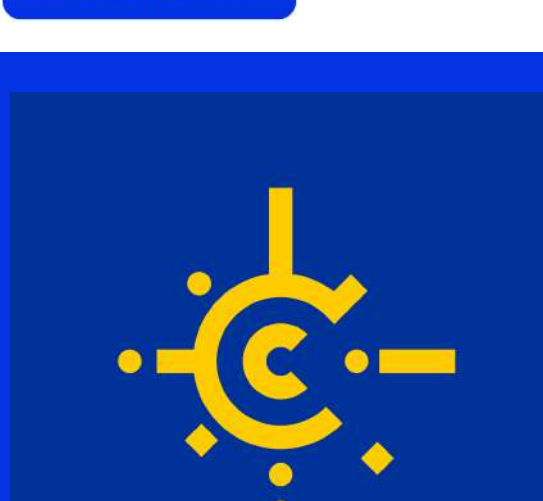
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Comprehensive EU customs reform agreed, Lille selected as the seat of the new EU customs authority

On 26 March 2026, the Council of the EU and the European Parliament reached an agreement on a comprehensive reform of the EU customs system, aimed at equipping it with more modern tools to address the growing volume of trade, particularly in e-commerce, the increasing number of standards checked at the border, and complex geopolitical circumstances. The reform introduces new instruments to facilitate trade, improve the efficiency of customs revenue collection, and strengthen controls over non-compliant, dangerous, or unsafe goods, while seeking to avoid placing additional burdens on institutions and businesses. This is considered the most significant overhaul of the system since the establishment of the Customs Union in 1968.

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EU continues to diversify global trade partnerships and strengthen supply chains

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Council of the EU approves introduction of a new customs duty on low-value parcels from July 2026

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EU launches safeguard investigation into excessive imports of electrical steel

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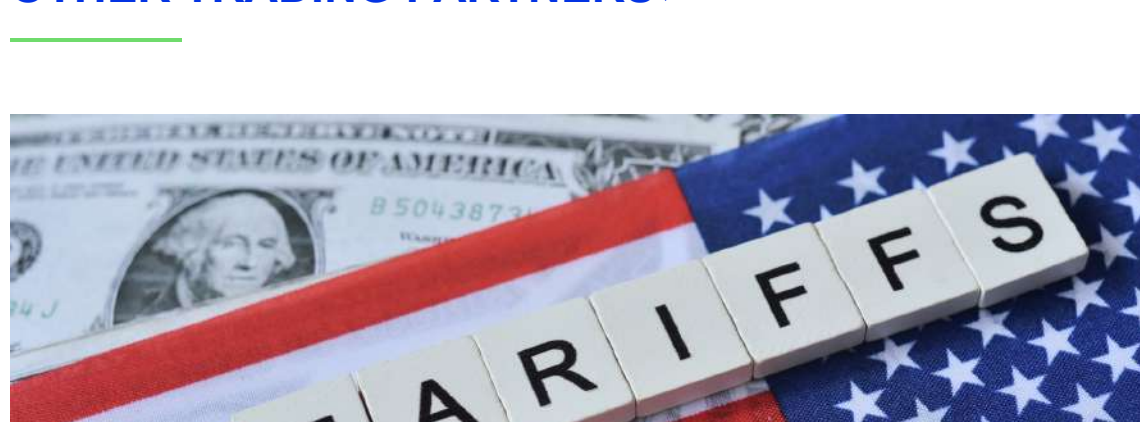

European Commission unveils long-awaited “Made in Europe” Act

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EU and Canada launched negotiations on a Digital Trade Agreement

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OTHER TRADING PARTNERS [↗](#)



US tariff policy deepens uncertainty in global trade

US tariff policy continues to generate significant uncertainty in global trade following a key ruling by the US Supreme Court, which declared tariffs introduced last year under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (so-called “reciprocal tariffs”) unlawful. The US Customs and Border Protection suspended the collection of such tariffs as of 24 February 2026.

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