

Background note from DG AGRI
EU-THAILAND FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

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EU-THAILAND FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (Under Negotiation – On Hold)

1. Parties and regional factors

- Bilateral negotiations between EU and Thailand.
- Thailand has GSP status but will lose it from 2015.
- It is one of the 10 members of ASEAN.

2. Dates of negotiation

- Negotiations were launched in March 2013. Negotiations were suspended since military take - over in May 2014. Next steps calendar is uncertain as it will depend of Thailand internal political situation.

3. Particular issues in negotiation - agricultural trade

- Thailand is an important agricultural country in the region and one of the main exporters (notably poultry, rice and sugar). These sectors, among others are considered "sensitive" in the EU.
- Key EU offensive interests include those with most trade or with high potential..
- Besides tariff negotiations, EU is also seeking adequate protection for a list of GIs (171), solution on certain SPS-TBT issues.