



Ex-post evaluation of the EU-Japan EPA NEWSLETTER

First Newsletter | 16 May 2025 |

DEAR STAKEHOLDER,

This is the first newsletter on the study by the ECFORTE team for the ex-post evaluation of the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) conducted by the European Commission (DG TRADE). The project started in January 2025. Via this medium, we are pleased to share project updates with you.

POSSIBILITIES TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS STUDY – *Have your say!*

We want to inform you about key stakeholder activities:

- The **website** for this study is online and can be found [here](#). Please visit it and look at the objectives, resources, timeline, and consultations outlook.
- The **draft Inception Report and its Annex** have been published. We welcome your comments **before 30 May 2025**. Please email us at: info@tradeimpact.eu
- **On 22 May 2025** from 15.00 to 17.00, the **EU Civil Society Dialogue** on the EU-Japan EPA ex-post evaluation will take place online to discuss the draft Inception Report. The event is for EU stakeholders who can register [here](#).
- The **open public consultation** and the **business/SME surveys** will go online in June and will be available for 18 weeks. They allow you to share your inputs and views on the implementation of the EU-Japan EPA.

FURTHER INDICATIVE TIMELINE

- **June 2025:** online surveys (OPC and business SME) will be available for stakeholders to share their opinion about the Agreement and its implementation.
- **May 2025 – October 2025:** 2nd phase of the study (the Interim Phase) when the impact analysis and the first interviews will be conducted.
- **October – November 2025:** Online seminars in the EU and Japan (further information will follow).
- **February 2026:** Submission of the draft final report to the Commission – followed by the EU Civil Society Dialogue meeting.

Stay updated and make yourself heard!



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INFORMATION ABOUT THE STUDY

February 2024 marked the fifth anniversary of the EU-Japan EPA's application. This ex-post evaluation aims to conduct an evidence-based analysis of the Agreement's economic, social, environmental, and human rights impact following its implementation. The assessment relies on economic modelling, literature review, statistical data analysis, and stakeholder consultations.

The study will conduct three case studies to provide in-depth analysis of: (1) trade in key agricultural goods, including SPS market access and related barriers; (2) geographical indications; and (3) trade in specific services.

The evaluation is carried out by ECFORTE (European Consortium for Trade Evaluation) led by Trade Impact B.V. www.tradeimpact.eu.

