



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 8 May 2018  
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## LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

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Subject: COUNCIL DECISION authorising the opening of negotiations with Australia  
for a Free Trade Agreement

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**COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2018/...**

**of ...**

**authorising the opening of negotiations with Australia  
for a Free Trade Agreement**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 91, Article 100(2), and the first subparagraph of Article 207(4), in conjunction with 218(3) and (4) thereof,

Having regard to the recommendation from the European Commission,

Whereas negotiations should be opened with a view to concluding a Free Trade Agreement with Australia,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

1. The Commission is hereby authorised to open negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement with Australia.
2. The negotiations shall be conducted on the basis of the negotiating directives of the Council set out in the addendum to this Decision.

*Article 2*

The Commission is hereby nominated as the Union negotiator.

*Article 3*

The negotiations shall be conducted in consultation with the Trade Policy Committee.

*Article 4*

This Decision is addressed to the Commission.

Done at ...,

*For the Council*

*The President*

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