

Restaurant Athenée 4, Rue de L'Athenée 4, 1205 Geneva

## Background

International financial service providers account for a key part of global services flows and have been a historic catalyst of services trade negotiations. Yet, countries today are reluctant to undertake deeper international commitments in financial services - a sector that is highly regulated and a key component of modern economies. Against this background, public debates witness an increasing divide over the desirability of financial services provisions in trade agreements per se. As a decade has passed since the worst of the global financial crisis, this roundtable seeks to take stock of the lessons learned and explore the opportunities and risks of financial services trade policy for a broad sustainability agenda.

This roundtable is part of a series of CEP roundtables focusing each on a particular sector and seeking to explore trade policy priorities that strengthen the alignment of services trade with sustainable development objectives.



### **Speakers**

**Kern Alexander**

*Professor*

*University of Zurich*

**John Cooke**

*Chairman*

*Liberalisation of Trade in Services Committee, TheCityUK*

**Juan Marchetti**

*Counsellor*

*World Trade Organization*

**Myriam vander Stichele**

*Senior Researcher*

*Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO)*

**Johannes Schwarzer (Moderator)**

*Fellow*

*Council on Economic Policies*

**RSVP**

As the number of guests is limited, we kindly ask you to RSVP with your name and affiliation at [trade@cepweb.org](mailto:trade@cepweb.org). For any further detail, please contact Johannes Schwarzer at +41 78 953 3510.

**Chatham House Rule**

We are hosting this convening under Chatham House Rule, i.e. participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the participants may be revealed.

**Logistics**

The meeting is taking place at Restaurant L'Athénée 4 (Rue de L'Athénée 4, 1205 Geneva | [athenee4.ch](http://athenee4.ch)) – bus stop Athénée (Lines 3 or 5). A subsequent lunch reception will be hosted at the same location.

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