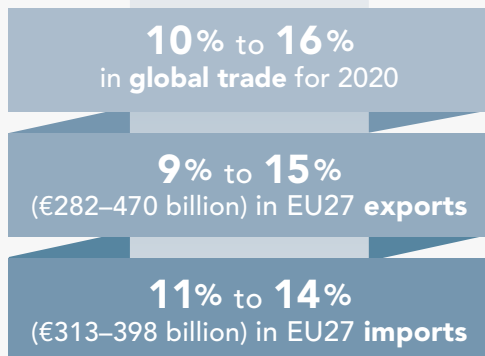


INTERNATIONAL TRADE & GLOBAL ECONOMY

The COVID-19 crisis could result in a **decrease** of:



But **global trade** and its integrated **value chains** will continue to be a fundamental **growth engine** that is essential for Europe's recovery.



1 out of 7 jobs today depends on exports.



SMEs represent 87% of all EU exporting companies and are a driving force for EU export performance.



The EU is also the **largest investor** in the world, with a stock of over **€8.7 trillion** held by EU investors abroad.

The **EU's key trade policy areas** of focus to counteract the effects of the COVID-19 crisis include:

Ensuring greater **resilience** in EU supply chains



Pursuing the EU's **green, sustainability and digital** objectives



Advancing the EU's level playing field objectives



Supporting **economic recovery** and long-term growth



Providing support to SMEs



In the short term, it may be necessary for some products to be **manufactured in the EU**, under a model known as **"Open Strategic Autonomy,"** which:

In the long term, it will be essential for the **EU economy** to continue to benefit from **growth opportunities abroad:**



Reaps the benefits of **openness** for EU businesses, workers and consumers



Protects them from **unfair practices**



Builds up the EU's **resilience** to be better equipped for future challenges

It has a **network** of trade agreements with **76 countries** around the world.

The removal of **100 non-tariff barriers** from 2014 to 2018 has led to an **increase** of about **60% of EU exports**

