



3rd December 2021, 13th Edition

PM JOHNSON MET WITH PM MITSOTAKIS OF GREECE, NOVEMBER 2021

16 November 2021



PM Johnson met with PM Mitsotakis of Greece: 16 November 2021

Prime Minister Boris Johnson welcomed Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis to Downing Street. The leaders began by emphasising the value of the UK-Greek relationship as we mark the 200th anniversary of Greece's war of independence. They agreed to work to strengthen it further in areas including trade, education and tourism.

[Read more](#)

Κυριάκος Μητσοτάκης: Πολύ ισχυρές οι σχέσεις Ελλάδας – Βρετανίας

Για πολύ ισχυρές σχέσεις ανάμεσα στην Ελλάδα και τη Μεγάλη Βρετανία μίλησε ο πρωθυπουργός, Κυριάκος Μητσοτάκης κατά την άφιξη του στην Downing Street. Από την πλευρά του, ο Βρετανός πρωθυπουργός Μπόρις Τζόνσον, υποδεχόμενος τον κ. Μητσοτάκη, τόνισε ότι έχει πολύ μεγάλη σημασία γι' αυτόν η σχέση ανάμεσα στην Ελλάδα και το Ηνωμένο Βασίλειο.

[Read more](#)

PM BORIS JOHNSON'S STATEMENT TO THE HOUSE ON COP26 TAKEN PLACE IN GLASGOW, NOVEMBER 2021

15 November 2021

Prime Minister Boris Johnson's statement to the House of Commons on COP26.

[Read more](#)

UPCOMING EVENT / INITIATIVES

15 December 2021 | BHCC and the British Embassy in Athens organize the Hybrid Event “Almost a year in the TCA: Opportunities & Challenges in the Food & Drink Industry”

This Hybrid Event will be hosted at the British Ambassador’s Residence, with the Ambassador’s attendance and will focus on the Food & Drinks industry aiming at informing GR exporters to the UK on the gradual implementation of UK import controls (.i.e phytosanitary and health certificates), discuss business concerns and monitor readiness. The second part of the event will cover the key challenges and opportunities for the Food & Drinks business trading with the UK, as well as of the importers from the UK to Greece.

The event will be organized with the support of the Panhellenic Exporters Association (ΠΣΕ).

An invitation to attend virtually will follow.

SUPPORTING EVENTS

26 January 2022 | BHCC supports the Hybrid Event “The Sixth London Business Summit”

The Economist’s Sixth London Business Summit entitled “UK - Greece - Cyprus: Taking trade & investment to the next level” is scheduled to take place on January 26th, 2022 at the London Stock Exchange in a hybrid manner (physical presence/livestreaming) to discuss business and investment opportunities in the region.

Speakers include Cabinet Ministers, leaders from business and finance who will take part in a stimulating dialogue with institutional investors to brainstorm, openly debate and put forward proposals on what challenges and opportunities lie ahead. With an enviable reputation for excellence and editorial integrity, the organisers aim to deliver, yet again, a first-class programme featuring leading thinkers and cutting-edge insights.

[Read more](#)

BHCC MEMBERS’ SECTION

EXPENSE REDUCTION ANALYSTS | EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW TO BHCC

Elias Athanasiou CFA, Partner | Expense Reduction Analysts



1. Κύριε Αθανασίου, μπορείτε να μας πείτε μερικά λόγια για την εταιρεία σας και τι ακριβώς προσφέρει;

Η Expense Reduction Analysts (ERA) είναι παγκόσμιος ηγέτης στον εξορθολογισμό κόστους των επιχειρήσεων με βιώσιμο τρόπο. Ιδρύθηκε το 1992 στο Ηνωμένο Βασίλειο, έχει παρουσία σε περισσότερες από 40 χώρες και άνοιξε τα γραφεία της στην Ελλάδα στα μέσα του 2020. Τα γενικά έξοδα των εταιριών συνήθως δεν είναι βελτιστοποιημένα για λόγους έλλειψης αγοραστικής δύναμης, εσωτερικών πόρων και ενίοτε εξειδίκευσης, ενώ αποτελούν σημαντικό μέρος των συνολικών τους δαπανών, περίπου 20%. Με τη δική μας βοήθεια, οι επιχειρήσεις μπορούν να αυξήσουν το περιθώριο κέρδους τους έως και πέντε (5) ποσοστιαίες μονάδες, καθιστώντας τις πιο ανταγωνιστικές και απελευθερώνοντας χρηματικούς πόρους για επενδύσεις, μερίσματα, πρόωρη πληρωμή δανείων, κλπ.

[Read more](#)

Pathos, Ethos, Logos

The three models... of education

€1.7 billion is spent per annum on private language education in Greece. This funds 7,000 private language schools, 8,000,000 textbooks, more than 60,000 foreign language teachers and at least 6 UK and US examination and accreditation organizations.

[Read more](#)

Πέντε βραβεία για τη MOBIAK στα Security and Fire Awards



Η MOBIAK τιμήθηκε ακόμα μία φορά, με πέντε βραβεία στα Security and Fire Awards, τον θεσμό ανάδειξης των βέλτιστων πρακτικών στους τομείς της ασφάλειας και της πυρόσβεσης.

Η MOBIAK επιβεβαίωσε με τον καλύτερο τρόπο ότι αποτελεί την κορυφαία ελληνική εταιρεία στον τομέα του πυροσβεστικού εξοπλισμού και μία από τις ανερχόμενες δυνάμεις σε διεθνές επίπεδο.

[Read more](#)

INTRODUCING OUR NEW MEMBERS

Welcoming our new Member, who has joined the Chamber within November 2021:

- Henry Moazzo, www.bhcc.gr/business-index/Moazzo-Henry

25 November 2021

Guide for UK businesses on Free Trade Agreements



The Department for International Trade (DIT) has created a video guide for businesses on Free Trade Agreements.

They have also created a [guide](#) for members which contains links to the support offered by the DIT to both new and experienced exporters, to help their businesses grow in new markets. Share with your members as relevant.

See the video [here](#).

1 October 2021

DIT launched the Export Support Service, a single telephone helpline and digital enquiry service that will help British businesses export to Europe, providing a single point of contact helping exporters navigate a range of complex information simply and quickly.

Businesses can ask questions related to:

- **exporting to new markets**
- **paperwork needed to sell goods abroad**
- **rules for a specific country where exporters want to sell services**

[Read more](#)

BREXIT NEWS & UPDATES

UK GOVERNMENT - BREXIT UPDATES

1 December 2021

Less than a month until full customs controls are introduced

HMRC are reminding traders to prepare for customs changes that come into effect on 1 January 2022.

[Read more](#)

For more information on Brexit developments please visit <https://www.gov.uk/transition>, https://ec.europa.eu/info/relations-united-kingdom_en and <https://brexit.gov.gr/>

UK GOVERNMENT AND BRITISH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE (BCC) NEWS & UPDATES

UK GOVERNMENT NEWS & UPDATES

24 November 2021

World Trade Organization General Council, November 2021: UK statements

The UK's Permanent Representative to the WTO in Geneva, Simon Manley, spoke on a variety of agenda items at the WTO General Council 22-23 November 2021.

[Read more](#)

8 November 2021

UKEF secures budget increase to help UK exporters Build Back Better

Increase signals continued expansion of UKEF's role in government after record levels of support for UK exporters in 2020-21.

[Read more](#)

1 November 2021

39th Universal Periodic Review of human rights: UK statement on Greece

Simon Manley, UK Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva delivered the UK statement at Greece's Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

[Read more](#)

Ministers renew efforts to increase opportunities for talented women at the top of UK business

Government to back a new five-year review to monitor women's representation in the upper rungs of FTSE companies.

[Read more](#)

BRITISH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE (BCC) NEWS & UPDATES

25 November 2021

BCC trade update



The Border and Protocol Delivery Group published a new version of the [GB Border Operating Model](#), outlining the processes for inbound GB border controls phased in from 1 January 2022. Key dates for importers and EU suppliers include:

- 1 January** (start of pre-notification for all animal origin and plant products consignments, end of easement on suppliers' declarations);
- 1 July** (safety and security certificates now required and start of documentary and physical checks for meat and meat products at GB border control posts);
- 1 September** (start of checks for dairy and dairy products); and
- 1 November** (start of checks for fish and composite food products).



Discussions on the Protocol in Northern Ireland continue between UK and EU officials. Lord Frost spoke about the possibility of more momentum in the talks. Prospects of any speedy suspension of the Protocol have receded somewhat. Current easements continue in place between GB and NI on goods movements.

18 November 2021

BCC Trade Update



The UK government has issued its [Export Strategy](#), which has at its centre a 12 point plan to raise UK export levels, with reference to UK Export Finance, Trade Academy and other measures. Shevaun Haviland participated in a Ministerial roundtable on the strategy on Monday with International Trade Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP. Some comments included in The Department of International Trade's (DIT) [press release on the strategy](#).



DIT also issued the first in a series of [papers on trade](#) which sets out the economic underpinnings of the Export Strategy, the UK's particular strengths in goods and services exports in the years ahead and how increases in exports contribute to the UK government's cross-cutting agenda on Net Zero, productivity and levelling up.



BCC met with the Paymaster-General Michael Ellis, to discuss business concerns on UK-EU trade, including VAT, the expiry of easements on rules of origin certification, and SPS rules.



HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) wrote to 155,000 companies as part of their campaign on [proving origin of goods to/from the EU after 1 January 2022](#).



The World Trade Organisation (WTO) published its [World Trade Report 2021](#). It outlines the effects the pandemic had on global trade and makes the case for more trade co-operation between countries. The WTO Ministerial Conference ([MC12](#)) gets underway on 30 November with services, SMEs, and sustainability policy looking the most likely areas for agreement.



The UK's National Security and Investment Act 2021 – new guidance

The UK government has made a significant upgrade to investment screening, for national security purposes. [The National Security and Investment Act](#) (NSI) ensures predictability and transparency, while mitigating any risks to national security.

The new system will come fully into force on **Tuesday 4 January 2022**.

Businesses and investors are encouraged to get ready for the changes, with [new guidance](#) published.

11 November 2021

BCC Trade Update



After a meeting with the Paymaster-General Michael Ellis last week, BCC has taken up issues with the Cabinet Office such as cross-border VAT and the expiry of the easement on proof of origin on UK-EU trade. New implementation guidance on the usage of CE and UKCA marking from January 2023 will be available soon from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).



Lord Frost made a [statement on negotiations with the EU](#) in the House of Lords. He said the discussions still had some way to go before other actions in relation to the Protocol in NI would be undertaken. The BCC has pressed both sides to reach an agreement to avoid risks of EU-UK trade disruption this winter.

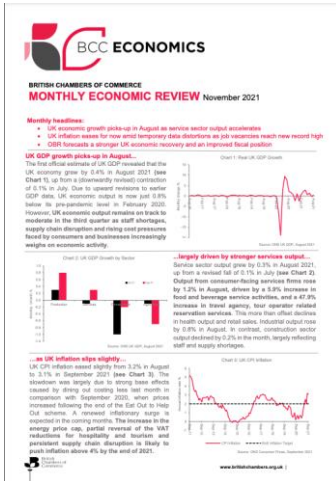


A revised paper on UK Common Frameworks was released by the Cabinet Office. Common Frameworks are those areas of regulation which were previously underpinned by the EU rules which intersect with devolved competences and are agreed to maintain common approaches within the UK's internal market.



At the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in Geneva, further work has been completed on the [agenda for micro, small and medium sized businesses](#), including a new digital trade information platform for businesses, ahead of the Ministerial Conference at the end of this month. BCC will be looking carefully at the outputs from this.

04 November 2021



BCC Monthly Economic Review - November 2021

BCC recently published its November [Monthly Economic Review](#). This briefing is an analysis of the key domestic and international economic indicators for business. This month's headlines:

- UK economic growth picks up in August as service sector output accelerates.
- UK inflation eases for now amid temporary data distortions as job vacancies reach new record high.
- OBR forecasts a stronger UK economic recovery and an improved fiscal position.

For ease of use a [PDF version](#) and a [Word version](#) are included.



SAVE THE DATES FOR BCC'S ONLINE EVENTS

ChamberCustoms webinar: International Trade Survey Results



- Monday 6 December
- 14:00 - 15:00 (UK time)
- Open to all

Against a backdrop of Brexit and COVID-19 disruption, manufacturers are experiencing huge increases in the cost of labour, energy and raw materials.

This first session will present the results of BCC'S latest International Trade Survey and reveal the impact that the past year has had on trader confidence, investment plans, new markets and getting goods into and out of the UK.

Find more information [here](#)

[Register here](#)

9 December
14 December

[ChamberCustoms webinar: Brexit, what Brexit?](#)
[ChamberCustoms webinar: Full on Brexit!](#)

BECOME A MEMBER

If you wish to become a BHCC Member, please [click here](#).

CONTACT DETAILS

To subscribe to our Newsletter and for more information and publication of articles, reports, press releases and/or interviews, please contact Mrs Lina Dede, BHCC General Manager.

We are always interested in your views.

Send us an e-mail to info@bhcc.gr if you have any queries about this Newsletter or its content.

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