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## **GERMAN BUSINESSES: GOV'T SHOULD WORK MORE WITH EURASIA AMID US PROTECTIONISM**

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Buechele stressed that complex political relations with Russia should not hinder trade relations with the EAEU and lead to further downtime.

He further noted that the small member states of the EAEU – Belarus, Kazakhstan, Armenia and Kyrgyzstan – looked forward to launching direct negotiations, and "anyone looking for ways to develop a constructive agenda with Russia for mutual benefit and building new trust should start with this item."

Buechele welcomed the fact that the German government had previously stated it was open for negotiations between the European Union and the EAEU, and he felt that Berlin should now "use its weight at the European level to remove existing blockades."

During his presidential campaign, incumbent US President Donald Trump promised to change the countrys trade policies by resorting to protectionism. After his inauguration, the leader started to fulfill his promises, which included introducing additional tariffs on aluminum and steel imports, as well as withdrawing the United States from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and renegotiating the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

<https://sputniknews.com/europe/201809201068198687-german-cooperation-eaeu/>

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