



Washington, D.C. (November 7, 2019) — The Coalition of Services Industries (CSI) issued the following statement on the release of a joint U.S. Chamber of Commerce-CSI paper, *Services Priorities for a Future U.S.-U.K. Trade Agreement*:

Said CSI President Christine Bliss: “The U.K. is one of the United States’ most important services trade and investment markets worldwide, and the United States is the U.K.’s largest single export market. So it’s especially important that any potential trade agreement between the two countries include high-standard provisions to promote services trade and investment, as well as the digital trade flows that are such a critical part of that trade and investment. On the occasion of CSI’s 11th annual Global Services Summit, we want to highlight the importance of promoting services trade and investment as well as digital priorities in a potential US-UK trade agreement.

“The U.S. and U.K. are especially well positioned to adopt world-class services, investment and digital trade provisions given that both economies are so highly oriented towards innovative services industries. In the U.S., for example, over three quarters of the work force is engaged in providing services. Services account for about 80 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) in both the U.S. and U.K.

“In our joint paper, we’ve outlined recommendations for advanced services commitments that would foster further cross-Atlantic growth in services and in turn, benefit highly competitive U.S. services providers. Any arrangement on U.S.-U.K. trade should ensure equitable treatment of foreign services suppliers, maximize the openness of each services market, and provide a foundation for continued innovation and growth in the digital economy.

“This approach would also aid the broader economy since services are so closely integrated into a broad spectrum of industries, ranging from manufacturing to agriculture, and are a key component in enhancing business productivity. At the first opportunity, we urge U.S. and U.K. negotiators to move forward in pursuing a comprehensive, high-standard trade agreement that includes disciplines on services and digital trade. “

Please view the full paper, prepared with the help of White and Case, here:

<https://www.uschamber.com/report/services-priorities-future-us-uk-trade-agreement>

The Coalition of Services Industries (CSI) represents the interests of the dynamic American service economy, which employs over 75% of the workforce and generates 80% of national economic output. Since 1982, CSI has created greater public awareness of the major role services play in the U.S. economy, and it has shaped domestic and international economic policies on behalf of the services sector. The broad range of the U.S. service economy is reflected in CSI's membership, which includes major international companies from the banking, insurance, telecommunications, information technology, logistics and express delivery, audiovisual, retail, and other service industries. CSI members conduct business in all 50 states and in more than 100 countries.