

# Greens respond to Tory-DUP coalition of cruelty



# Green Party

26 June 2017

The Green Party [1] has responded to news the Conservatives have reached a deal with the DUP to prop up their minority Government [1].

Jonathan Bartley, co-leader of the Green Party, said:

“The coalition of cruelty deal has now been signed and the Tory Government stumbles on for another day.

“Theresa May’s claim her party shares many of the DUP’s values is alarming – which is she referring to? Their opposition to equal marriage, abortion or climate action? The Green Party will always stand up against the regressive values of the DUP and work with others to stop a lurch to the right under a Tory-DUP alliance.

“The length of time it has taken Theresa May to reach a deal is a sign of the chaos currently engulfing her Government. The Tories are utterly hamstrung – unable to implement their manifesto plans, derided in the rest of the EU and incapable of properly-Governing this country in these testing times.”

Notes:

1. The DUP has 10 MPs and received fewer than 300,000 votes in the General Election. The Green party returned just one MP – Caroline Lucas in Brighton Pavilion – despite getting more than 500,000 votes.

2. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/jun/26/tories-and-the-dup-reach-deal-to-prop-up-minority-government>

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## China's new high-speed train debuts

China's next generation bullet train "Fuxing" debuted on the Beijing-Shanghai line on Monday.

A CR400AF model departed Beijing South Railway Station at 11:05 a.m. for Shanghai. At the same time, the CR400BF model left Shanghai Hongqiao Railway Station for Beijing.

The new bullet trains, also known as electric multiple units (EMU), boast top speeds of 400 kilometers an hour and a consistent speed of 350 kilometers an hour.

The train was designed and manufactured by China.

The train includes a sophisticated monitoring system that constantly checks its performance and automatically slows the train in case of emergencies or abnormal conditions.

Thanks to a remote data-transmission system, a control center will be able to monitor the train in real time.

Lu Dongfu, general manager of China Railway Corp., operator of the new train, said "Fuxing" (rejuvenation), underpins the unique role that high-speed railway has played in China's economic and social development.

Previous bullet trains featured the characters "Hexiehao" (harmony), on the exterior of each train.

China has the world's longest railway network, 22,000 kilometers by the end of 2016, about 60 percent of the world's total.

Beijing-Shanghai railway line is China's busiest route, used by 50,5000 passengers daily.

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## Bericht: Protektionismus auf dem Vormarsch, EU erfolgreich beim Abbau von Handelshemmnissen

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## [Report: Protectionism on the Rise, EU Successful in Countering Barriers](#)

European exporters reported a 10% increase in the number of trade barriers they encountered in 2016 alone. 372 such barriers were in place at the end of last year in over 50 trade destinations across the world. The 36 obstacles created in 2016 could affect EU exports that are currently worth around €27 billion.

According to the Report on Trade and Investment Barriers released today by the European Commission, thanks to its effective Market Access Strategy, the Commission succeeded last year in removing as many as 20 different obstacles hindering European exports.

Commenting on the report, EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia **Malmström** said: *"We clearly see that the scourge of protectionism is on the rise. It affects European firms and their workers. It is worrying that G20 countries are maintaining the highest number of trade barriers. At the upcoming G20 summit in Hamburg, the EU will urge leaders to walk the talk and resist protectionism. Europe will not stand idly by and will not hesitate to use the tools at hand when countries don't play by the rules."*

The Trade and Investment Barriers Reports are published annually since the beginning of the 2008 economic crisis. This year's edition is fully based on concrete complaints received by the Commission from European companies. They concern a wide range of products covering everything from agri-food to shipbuilding industries.

G20 members figure prominently among countries having created the highest number of import obstacles. Russia, Brazil, China and India top the list. Most of the new protectionist measures reported in 2016 appeared also in Russia and India, followed by Switzerland, China, Algeria and Egypt.

The Commission strongly defends European businesses against rising protectionist tendencies. Its efforts brought tangible results in 2016. The Commission managed to restore normal trading conditions in 20 various cases affecting EU exports worth €4.2 billion. South Korea, China, Israel and Ukraine top the list of countries where the EU succeeded in tackling barriers.

The EU food and drink, automotive and cosmetics sectors are those who benefited the most from the recent EU action. To give a few examples, following an EU intervention, China suspended labelling requirements that would otherwise affect the €680 million-worth EU cosmetics exports; Korea agreed to bring its rules for the size of car seats in line with international rules and Israel enabled companies from the whole of the EU to request market authorisation and export their pharmaceutical products.

All this was made possible thanks to the effective cooperation between the Commission, EU Member States and European business representatives through the EU Market Access Strategy and improved relations with trading partners under the recent EU's trade agreements.

The Market Access Strategy is a pivotal part of the EU's efforts to create the best possible conditions for European firms to export around the world and to ensure an effective enforcement of international trade rules.

The measures targeted in the report do not cover the trade defence measures. Anti-dumping or anti-subsidy duties, imposed in line with WTO requirements, are tools that serve to restore fair trading conditions. They are used by the EU and many of its partners to ensure a level-playing field.

### **For More Information**

[Commission report on trade and investment barriers](#)

[Market Access Strategy](#)

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