



Report of the 10th round of negotiations on a Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and Thailand

28 September-2 October 2026, Phuket

The 10th Round of negotiations on an EU-Thailand Free Trade Agreement (FTA) took place in the week of 28 September 2026 in Phuket. The respective negotiating teams were led by Mr Christophe Kiener (Directorate General for Trade and Economic Security of the European Commission) and Ms Chotima Iemsawasdikul (Ministry of Commerce of Thailand).

Negotiating teams continued to engage in text-based work across all open chapters, reaching agreement in principle on the chapters on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) issues, on Services and Investment, and on Initial Provisions. The texts on Government Procurement, Energy and Raw Materials, and Rules of Origin were also provisionally agreed, except for issues related to market access. Very good progress was made in the texts on Digital trade, Intellectual Property including Geographical Indications, and Final provisions, as well as in the discussions on Product-Specific Rules of Origin.

On market access, constructive discussions took place on tariff liberalisation and on services and investment, based on the revised offers that had been exchanged ahead of the round. Both sides shared views on their respective expectations for future improvements in remaining priority areas. On government procurement, negotiating teams continued to engage in discussions on the basis of draft offers, to prepare the ground for the upcoming formal exchange of offers.

Most chapters now being provisionally closed, discussions will continue in dedicated formats rather than in fully-fledged rounds, and focus on market access and on bridging remaining gaps on outstanding issues in the texts.

Details per negotiating area

Trade in Goods

In-depth technical discussions took place on market access, based on the revised tariff offers that had been exchanged before the round. Progress was made on the consolidation of improvements concerning the treatment of products covered in initial offers. Both sides recalled their respective expectations and key sectors of interest for further improvements, and confirmed their intention of reaching an ambitious outcome, while taking into account their respective sensitivities.

Rules of origin

Both sides advanced work on the Rules of Origin Chapter. The text is now provisionally finalised, except for provisions related to market access.

Very good progress was made on product-specific rules of origin, reaching agreement on most of them, such as on the remaining agricultural products, on beverages, and on textiles.

Discussions will now focus on the outstanding product-specific rules, including for fisheries, automotive, and certain metals.

Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary (SPS) matters

The negotiating group reached agreement on all the outstanding issues, including with respect to regionalisation, approval procedures, and audits. The chapter is therefore now provisionally closed.

Services and Investment

The negotiating group discussed the remaining open issues in the text, including denial of benefits, performance requirements and non-conforming measures, and reached agreement on all of them. The chapter is therefore now provisionally closed.

Regarding market access, discussions took place on the basis of the second revised offers which had been exchanged ahead of the round. The two sides will continue to work intersessionally in order to explore further improvements.

Digital trade

The negotiating group discussed the outstanding issues, such as provisions on scope and on online consumer trust, and reached agreement on most of them. The chapter is now largely consolidated.

Government Procurement (GP)

The negotiating group reached agreement on most of the remaining open provisions in the text, such as definitions and limited tendering. The chapter is therefore provisionally concluded, except for issues related to market access.

Both sides also discussed their respective draft offers, indicating expectations for improvements, and agreed to proceed soon with a formal exchange of initial offers.

Intellectual property (IP)

The two sides held constructive discussions on the open issues in the text of the chapter, including general provisions, copyright, industrial designs, patents, Geographical Indications (GIs) and institutional provisions. Significant progress was achieved, with only a few points remaining open.

The negotiating group also exchanged respective positions on possible solutions on a case-by-case basis for the EU GIs on which oppositions have been filed in Thailand.

Energy and Raw Materials (ERM)

The negotiating group held constructive discussions and managed to bridge the gaps on most of the remaining open issues, such as import and export monopolies, export pricing, and third-party access to energy transport infrastructure. The chapter is therefore now provisionally agreed, except for provisions related to market access.

Initial Provisions and General Definitions, Final Provisions

The negotiating group closed in principle the chapter on Initial Provisions and General Definitions.

The chapter on Final provisions is largely provisionally agreed, and both sides will continue discussions to finalise the text concerning the scope of application of the FTA.
