

Press Release

July 5, 2017

Hamburg Initiative for Free Trade and Economic Growth **Joint Statement of the German Economy for the G20 Summit**

Berlin – Accompanying the G20 summit, Germany's largest advertising space, placed prominently in Hamburg harbour, will convey a clear message to all attendees: 'Hamburg ahoy! Keep global trade open!' Leading representatives of the German economy, politics, and sciences met today for the unveiling of the giant placard, a project spearheaded by the New Social Market Economy Initiative (*INSM*).

The Hamburg Initiative for Free Trade and Economic Growth states:

Free trade is the prerequisite for economic growth and prosperity worldwide. In the future it can only remain as such, if domestic markets are kept open and barriers to trade are removed. We are watching protectionist tendencies and an increase in trade barriers with growing concern. To achieve real progress on our way to a dependable and transparent international trade system, we are urging the heads of state and governments of the G20 nations to:

- Ratify free trade agreements such as CETA as soon as possible, restart the TTIP negotiations for a transatlantic partnership, and initiate talks for new free trade agreements.
- Establish faster and more effective measures to settle trade disputes.
- Remove tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade between the G20 states and towards other nations and regions.
- Issue a clear rejection of protectionist and nationalist tendencies.

The signatories of this statement are: Ingo Kramer (President of the German Employers' Association, *BDA*), Wolfgang Clement (Chair of the Board of Trustees, *INSM*), Rainer Dulger (President of the Federation of German Employers' Associations in the Metal and Electrical Engineering Industries, *Gesamtmittel*), Thomas Lambusch (President, Federation of German Employers' Associations in the Metal and Electrical Engineering Industries Northern Germany, *Nordmetall*), Reinhold von Eben-Worlée (President of the Association of Family Businesses, *Die Familienunternehmer*), Ludwig Görtz (Owner, Ludwig Görtz GmbH), Michael Westhagemann (CEO, *IVH*), and many others.

You can find the full list of signatories and further facts about free trade under inism.de

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