

Did the election of Donald Trump affect Europeans' support for US trade agreement?

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A survey conducted immediately before and after the 2016 US presidential election reveals that the election of Donald Trump had a negative effect on Europeans' image of the United States, but it did not seem to affect the willingness of Europeans to sign a trade and investment agreement with the country.

The authors of the analysis, which is published in *Economic Inquiry*, noted that the election mainly caused undecided people to adjust their image of the United States in a negative way, rather than cause people with a positive image to take on a negative one.

"We found that the election outcome led to an immediate and sizable [negative effect](#) on Europeans' image of the United States," said Tom Coupe, Ph.D., of the University of Canterbury, New Zealand. "But because people with a positive image are most likely to support a trade agreement, little changed overall," added Oleksandr Shepotylo, Ph.D., of Aston University, in the UK.

More information: Tom Coupé et al, POPULAR SUPPORT FOR TRADE AGREEMENTS AND PARTNER COUNTRY CHARACTERISTICS: EVIDENCE FROM AN UNEXPECTED ELECTION OUTCOME, *Economic Inquiry* (2020). [DOI: 10.1111/ecin.12927](#)

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