

NEWSLETTER

BRITISH HELLENIC
Chamber of
COMMERCE



working together
SINCE 1945

13 January 2022, 14th Edition

2022 – NEW YEAR'S WISHES

Dear Members and Friends,

The Board of Directors and the Staff of the British Hellenic Chamber of Commerce would like to wish you a happy, healthy and blessed 2022!

May the New Year bring to us all the normality we hope, leaving this pandemic behind. May 2022 be a year full of good changes, challenges, prosperity and growth.

BHCC EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

UPCOMING EVENTS / INITIATIVES

02 February 2022 | BHCC and the British Embassy in Athens organize the Webinar "The UK as top investment destination"

The aim of this co-organisation of the British Embassy in Athens/Department for International Trade and the British Hellenic Chamber of Commerce is to raise awareness among Greek investors of the opportunities and advantages the UK offers.

The British Ambassador to Greece, H.E. Matthew Lodge, will address a welcome speech. The webinar agenda incorporates a comprehensive presentation entitled "**Why choose the UK as your investment destination**" by **Christina Liaos, Investment Director of DIT Europe**. Selected companies will also participate by presenting their case studies. The event will close with a Q&A session, discussion and closing remarks by Anna Kalliani, Greek President of the BHCC.

An invitation to attend virtually and the event agenda will follow shortly.

TRADE FAIRS

The British Hellenic Chamber of Commerce will participate **in cooperation with Reco Exports** in the following Trade Fairs, which will take place in the UK.

03-04 April 2022 | Natural & Organic Products Europe, London ExCel

Natural & Organic Products Europe is your one-stop-shop for eco-friendly, sustainable, natural, organic and free from food, drink, beauty, self-care and well-being products.

25-27 April 2022 | Food & Drink Expo, NEC Birmingham

The UK Food & Drink Shows are an opportunity to bring together the grocery, specialist retail, wholesale and foodservice sectors all under one roof. The NEC Birmingham will be the focal point, where between 25 - 27 April 2022 Food & Drink Expo will run alongside National Convenience Show, Farm Shop & Deli Show and The Forecourt Show.

16-18 May 2022 | London Wine Fair

The show will feature outstanding tastings, unmissable industry sessions, meetings with winemakers and importers, networking opportunities and more, all back for one big wine trade reunion. This will be combined with online and digital experiences building on the hugely successful digital show.

More details on each Trade Fair and the opportunities/alternative ways to participate will be communicated in due course.

PAST EVENTS / INITIATIVES

15 December 2021 | BHCC and the British Embassy in Athens organized the Hybrid Event "Almost a year in the Trade & Cooperation Agreement: Opportunities & Challenges in the Food & Drink Industry"

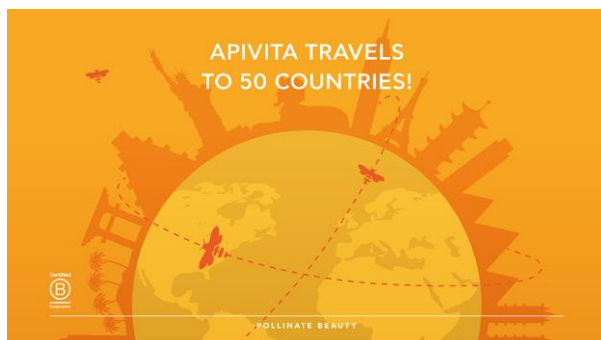
The event took place at the British Residence, in the presence of the British Ambassador Mr Matthew Lodge and the support of the Panhellenic Exporters Association (ΠΣΕ) and the Association of Exporters (ΣΕΒΕ).

Experts from the British Embassy in Athens, the British Ministry of International Trade, the British Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Greek Ministry of Rural Development and Food, shared their know-how and best practices with Greek companies which operate commercially with the United Kingdom.

[Read more](#)

BHCC MEMBERS' SECTION

APIVITA | NEWS



APIVITA Pollinates Beauty in 50 countries all over the World!

At APIVITA we are thrilled to announce that our international presence reached 50 countries globally. The company's acquisition in 2017 by PUIG was a key factor in the rapid international expansion of the brand during the past four years.

[Read more](#)

INTRODUCING OUR NEW MEMBERS

Welcoming our new Members, who have joined the Chamber within December 2021:

- ILT LOGISTICS SA, <https://italylines.gr/>
- KOTSOVOLOS – DIXONS – SOUTH EAST EUROPE, <https://www.kotsovolos.gr/>

03 January 2022

Δικαιολογητικά και στοιχεία αίτησης για την υπαγωγή αλλοδαπών και ημεδαπών εταιρειών στις διατάξεις του α.ν. 89/1967

Δημοσιεύτηκε η Απόφαση 142581/28.12.2021 για τον καθορισμό των δικαιολογητικών και στοιχείων αίτησης για την υπαγωγή αλλοδαπών και ημεδαπών εταιρειών στις διατάξεις του α.ν. 89/1967.

[Read more](#)

UK GOVERNMENT - DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE

01 January 2022

The Department for International Trade (DIT) has updated its tariff rate quotas on UK steel imports applicable in the first half of 2022.

Trade remedies notices: tariff-rate quotas on steel goods

Trade remedies notices published by the Secretary of State for International Trade relating to the tariff-rate quotas on steel goods.

[Read more](#)

02 December 2021

UK helps broker groundbreaking WTO agreement set to cut cost of global services trade by £113 billion

The UK's world-leading services sector is set to benefit from a landmark deal announced at the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

[Read more](#)

26 November 2021

DIT removes 20% more trade barriers to unlock major markets for British business

The United Kingdom has broken down hundreds of trade barriers around the world in the year to April, opening up new opportunities for British businesses, according to new data published.

[Read more](#)

BREXIT NEWS & UPDATES

22 December 2021

UK and EU reach agreement on fishing opportunities for 2022

The UK and EU reach agreement on catch limits for 2022, providing around 140,000 tonnes of fishing opportunities for the UK fleet.

[Read more](#)

21 December 2021

HMRC urges businesses to prepare for January customs changes

Some of the temporary Customs and VAT easements introduced on 1 January 2021 for goods moving between Great Britain and the EU will be removed on 1 January 2022.

[Read more](#)

15 December 2021

EU continues strong support to promote sustainable agri-food products in 2022

For 2022, a total of €185.9 million was allocated to the promotion of EU agri-food products in and outside the EU. Similarly to 2021, next year's promotion policy work programme focuses on products and agricultural practices that support the European Green Deal objectives, such as EU organic products, fruit and vegetables, sustainable agriculture and animal welfare.

[Read more](#)

11 December 2021

Latest update on licensing discussions with the European Union

Latest statement in response to discussions between the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and European Commissioner Virginijus Sinkevičius.

[Read more](#)

03 December 2021

Latest notices for traders from Defra, December 2021

Defra has issued notices for traders on importing requirements coming into place during 2022.

[Read more](#)

01 December 2021

Points-based immigration system: delivering on people's priorities

One year ago, a new immigration system launched, with visa routes attracting skilled workers across construction, hospitality, health, social care, science and research.

[Read more](#)

For more information on Brexit developments please visit <https://www.gov.uk/transition>, https://ec.europa.eu/info/relations-united-kingdom_en and <https://brexit.gov.gr/>

UK GOVERNMENT NEWS & UPDATES

07 December 2021

UK Export Finance is 'open for business' with billions available for exporters

Exports Minister, Mike Freer, delivers keynote speech at the UK Trade and Export Finance Forum.

[Read more](#)

03 December 2021

Letter to Make UK and BCC

A letter to Make UK and the British Chambers of Commerce in relation to disruption to container shipping.

[Read more](#)

BRITISH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE (BCC) NEWS & UPDATES

06 January 2022

Try the new ChamberCustoms UK Import Tax Calculator



BCC launched a new and useful tool which has been developed by the experts at ChamberCustoms and Exabler.

The [UK import tax calculator](#) is quick, easy and free to use and can work out the different rates of duty available to businesses when importing goods. Businesses can use this calculator to work out what needs to be paid to HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

Find out more [here](#).

BCC trade update



Key inbound GB border controls on customs declarations, suppliers' declarations, and pre-notification of animal and plant origin goods from the EU came into effect on Saturday 1 January. See the BCC's [checklist of steps to take](#) and a [blog on the new controls](#) and how to navigate them.



HMRC has produced new leaflets for [hauliers](#), [importers and suppliers](#) on the new inbound GB border arrangements, as well as new guidance on [claiming preferences](#) under the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA). The latest version of the UK Integrated Online Tariff for 2022 can be found [here](#).

04 January 2022

Find out more about the National Security and Investment Act



The National Security and Investment Act (NSI) came into effect on Tuesday 4 January 2022. The Act allows government to investigate and intervene in mergers, acquisitions and other deals that could threaten the UK's national security.

While the vast majority of acquisitions will be unaffected by this legislation, acquisitions of entities which meet certain criteria and fall within a mandatory area must now be notified to government prior to completion.

The [NSI online notifications service](#) is now live. Businesses may access the service and read guidance [here](#) including:

- How the Act could affect people or acquisitions outside the UK;
- How to complete and submit a notification form;
- How the Act works alongside regulatory requirements; and
- Guidance for the higher-education and research sectors

16 December 2021

BCC trade update



The UK government has made changes to the forthcoming phased entry into force of GB inbound border controls on EU goods by [exempting goods from the Republic of Ireland](#) from them until negotiations on Protocol implementation with the EU are completed next year.

09 December 2021

BCC Economic Forecast Q4 2021

The [BCC Economic Forecast Q4 2021](#) is published, setting out BCC's analysis and projections on a number of key UK economic indicators including GDP, trade, unemployment, and inflation.

The forecast is closely watched by policymakers such as the Treasury and also attracts a significant amount of media attention. Read the latest version of the Forecast [here](#).

BCC trade update



The UK government is consulting on plans for a Single Trade Window at the GB border covering customs and other border processes. See the policy document on this set of proposals [here](#). BCC [commented on this announcement](#) in the Financial Times. A consultation is open until the spring and BCC hopes to have a briefing session with officials in the New Year to explore the business case for these plans further.



New guidance on forthcoming [inbound GB customs requirements](#) has been issued by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC). Find out more about the new rules which come into effect from Saturday 1 January 2022 on making customs declarations and eligibility for making simplified declarations.

Guide to Managing Business Debt flipbook

British Business Bank (BBB) has recently released a new '[Guide to Managing Business Debt flipbook](#)' designed to provide impartial information to help businesses through survival and onto recovery, helping them stabilise and move forward to growth and future success. The guide focuses on the following areas:

- Understanding debt finance;
- Managing debt;
- Improving your cash flow;
- Moving from survival to recovery and growth; and
- Resources for businesses worried about their debt.

Take a look at the guide [here](#).

02 December 2021

BCC Monthly Economic Review - December 2021

BCC recently published its December [Monthly Economic Review](#). This briefing is BBC's analysis of the key domestic and international economic indicators for business. This month's headlines:

- UK economic recovery slows in Q3 as manufacturing and construction output falls
- UK inflation rises to decade high as the labour market continues to rebound
- Interest rates set to rise sooner rather than later as MPC vote tightens

For ease of use a [PDF version](#) and a [Word version](#) are included.

BCC trade update



The UK Board of Trade published a [new policy paper on digital trade](#) at its meeting in Derry/Londonderry last week, covering the UK's current and forthcoming trade negotiations and outlining greater opportunities for e-commerce and data flows.

Tax Administration and Maintenance: Autumn 2021

Following on from the command paper 'Tax policies and consultations', published in Spring 2021, HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) has published a Tax Administration and Maintenance: Autumn 2021 paper. This includes a range of policy announcements and updates aimed at reforming the tax system, making it easier for customers to get their tax right, and tackling all forms of non-compliance. The full paper can be found [here](#).

UK points-based immigration system

Please find below some updates concerning points-based immigration system:

Priority Visa Services

These are now available to EU nationals holding a biometric passport from an EU country and who are submitting applications via the [UK Immigration: ID Check app](#) in the following routes: [Skilled worker](#), [Health and Care worker](#), and [Student](#).

Skilled Worker Eligibility Checker Tool

The Home Office has launched a new [Skilled Worker Eligibility Checker](#) (SWEC) for applicants and employers.

PBS Anniversary

On Wednesday 1 December, marked the one-year anniversary since the points-based immigration system's (PBS) Skilled Worker route launched. The Skilled Worker route accounts for 61% of work-related visas granted, and saw the largest increase in visa numbers, up 45,866 or 57%.

See more information in the [points-based immigration system introduction for employers](#) and in the updated the [employer partner pack](#).



BECOME A MEMBER

If you wish to become a BHCC Member, please [click here](#).

CONTACT DETAILS

To subscribe to our Newsletter and for more information and publication of articles, reports, press releases and/or interviews, please contact Mrs Lina Dede, BHCC General Manager.

We are always interested in your views.

Send us an e-mail to info@bhcc.gr if you have any queries about this Newsletter or its content.

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