



MAY 2025

WORLD TRADE MONTH ISSUE

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the May 2025 Issue of the WTCA Meridian™ e-newsletter.

In honor of "World Trade Month" celebrated each May, we asked our 2025 WTCA Trade Services Member Advisory Council (MAC) Chairs and members their thoughts on the statement WTCA Chair John E. Drew unveiled during the recent WTCA Global Business Forum (GBF) in Marseille, focusing on the Association's stance in response to the current geopolitical climate and global trade issues:

WTCA is committed to promoting free and fair trade, open markets, and healthy competition. We believe these principles foster an environment that attracts investment, drives prosperity, and fuels economic growth. Through our global network of independent World Trade Center operations – built on trust and collaboration – we actively support these principles by facilitating international business connections and trade opportunities worldwide.

This month's issue also includes a full recap of the 55th Annual WTCA GBF, hosted by WTC Marseille Provence (April 6-9, 2025); recent articles from our global PR efforts surrounding the recent GBF; upcoming events; and news from our WTCA Members.

P.S. For this issue's **CALL TO ACTION, tell us how you are celebrating "WTCA DAY" on June 12.** Respond by Monday, June 2 and you could be featured in our next issue! Email newsletter@wtca.org.



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UPCOMING WTCA EVENTS

Check out the full [WTCA Events calendar](#) for network-wide conferences, trade shows, networking and more.

Upcoming 2025 WTCA Regional Conferences

North America Conference

 **Dates:** June 01-03, 2025

 **Location:** WTC Kansas City | Kansas City, Missouri, USA

 [Agenda and Registration Details Here](#)

Latin America Conference (Virtual)

 **Date:** June 03, 2025

 **Location:** Zoom

 [Contact](#) the LatAm Regional Team for details.

European Conference

 **Dates:** June 15-17, 2025

 **Location:** WTC Sofia (Affiliated) | Sofia, Bulgaria

 [Agenda and Registration Details Here](#)

 **NOTE:** At least one free ticket is available for every WTC business located in each of the regions, with heavily discounted tickets available for additional attendees. Limited quantities, so register early.

Annual Geopolitical Update

Hosted by the WTC Netherlands Alliance (WTC NL) and The Hague Centre for Strategic Studies (HCSS), and co-sponsored by WTCA, the joint initiative will provide an **annual update on what has happened in the past year in the geopolitical field, possible obstacles (trade barriers) coming up, and a preview of expected geopolitical developments.** The new *WTC Geopolitical Trade Index (WTC-GTI)* will be unveiled on the impacts of recent events on global trade.

 **Date/Time:** June 02, 2025 (12:00 UTC / 11:00 CEST)

 **Location:** Livestream

 [Details Here](#). RSVP at events@wtca.org

WTCA Day

Join us in celebrating the 23rd annual WTCA Day, recognizing the WTCA and its network of WTC branded businesses for encouraging global trade and investment. Stay tuned for details on how each region will celebrate!

 **Date:** June 12, 2025

 **Location:** Globally

 [More Information](#)

Sector Salon: Food & Beverage

Connect, exchange ideas and look for business opportunities specific to the Food & Beverage sector. This will provide a new opportunity for Members to find even more focused connections. Open to all WTCA Members.

 **Date:** June 24, 2025 (12:00 - 13:00 EDT)

 **Location:** Zoom

 [More Information](#)



WTCA TRADE SERVICES MAC: THOUGHTS ON CURRENT GLOBAL TRADE CLIMATE



During the April 2025 WTCA Global Business Forum, hosted by WTC Marseille Provence, WTCA Chair John E. Drew unveiled a statement in response to the current geopolitical climate and global trade issues. We asked the WTCA Trade Services MAC for their initial thoughts on the statement and the state of global trade in the years ahead.

[Read on for responses from some of the MAC's members >](#)

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ICYMI: FULL RECAP OF THE 2025 WTCA GLOBAL BUSINESS FORUM HOSTED BY WTC MARSEILLE PROVENCE

“Our annual Forum stands as a powerful reminder of what is possible when business leaders from around the world come together in the spirit of collaboration — and that’s precisely where the WTCA network excels,” said [John E. Drew](#), Chair, WTCA Board of Directors. **“This year’s GBF showcased the real value of connection: forging strategic partnerships between our WTCA members and local/international business delegates; opening new pathways to trade; and reaffirming our shared commitment to free, fair, and open commerce.** Together, we will continue to ‘Keep Calm and Trade On.’ We are thankful to WTC Marseille Provence for hosting such a wonderful event to demonstrate the power of our global network.”

[In Case You Missed It: Read the full 2025 WTCA GBF event recap press release >](#)

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WTCA IN THE NEWS

 Check out [WTCA in the News!](#) WTCA is making headlines! Our network is shaping conversations on trade, real estate and business across top global publications:

 [Athens News Agency](#) features an interview with WTCA Executive Director-Business Development Robin van Puyenbroeck on how Greece is uniquely positioned to play a bridging role in the changing trade environment.

 [Manila Insight](#) emphasizes WTO and WTCA's call for increased collaboration amidst global trade uncertainties during a panel discussion at the 2025 WTCA GBF in Marseille.

 [The Matthews Podcast](#) features an interview with WTCA Chair John E. Drew on how his multidimensional career has made an indelible impact on real estate, infrastructure and

international commerce — as he transformed Boston’s Seaport District, advised U.S. trade policy, and now leads global expansion as Chairman of WTCA.

NOTE: All WTCA media coverage secured by WTCA's global PR teams can be found on the [WTCA Resource Center here](#). For any inquiries, reach out to media@wtca.org.



AROUND THE WTCA NETWORK

Discover how WTCA Members are driving innovation, trade and growth across the globe.

From introducing **the 2025 WTCA Member Advisory Councils (MACs)** to highlighting **WTCA's new partnership with ICCA** and from sharing **MOU signings that took place during the recent GBF** to highlighting **upcoming webinars to help global and local businesses navigate the shifting global landscape**...Read what's happening around the WTCA network.

[Read WTCA Member News](#)

NEXT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: **Monday, June 2**

WTCA Members, submit your news, conferences, networking events, trade shows, trade missions and more to be included in the WTCA Global News & Events Calendar via the WTCA Digital Platform. This is a **free resource** for all WTCA Members to expand your digital footprint across the globe.



NOTE: Submitters are responsible for ensuring they have the appropriate rights for any/all media used within the submitted article(s) and will be liable for any fees associated with such use.

- Before submitting an article/event to the newsletter, kindly review the guidelines [here](#).
- [Click here](#) for written instructions to submit member stories.

Questions? Email newsletter@wtca.org.

[Click here](#) for written instructions to submit member events.
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