



INTERNATIONAL  
**TRADE**  
ADMINISTRATION

## **UNDER SECRETARY SÁNCHEZ TO PROMOTE U.S.-RUSSIA TRADE RELATIONSHIP AT ST. PETERSBURG INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC FORUM**

WASHINGTON – Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade Francisco Sánchez is set to highlight the benefits of expanding the U.S.-Russia trade relationship when he visits St. Petersburg, Russia, for the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, June 19-22. As part of the U.S. delegation, Sánchez will meet with Russian government and private sector officials to discuss opportunities for increasing exports now that Russia has acceded to the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On June 20, Sánchez will join U.S. business leaders for a panel discussion focusing on how Russia's WTO accession has changed the face of the U.S.-Russia business relationship at the U.S.-Russia Business Roundtable, and deliver remarks at a U.S.-Russia Business Council CEO dinner. On June 21, Sánchez will make remarks and participate in a breakfast discussion organized by the American Chamber of Commerce in Russia.

Russia's August 2012 entry into the WTO and the establishment of permanent normal trade relations between the two countries in December have provided a more level playing field for U.S. companies. U.S. exports to Russia grew nearly 29 percent in 2012 compared with 2011, more than five times the overall growth rate for global U.S. exports, to reach a record \$10.7 billion.

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