

Digitalization affects international trade on many levels, by transforming the way in which goods and services are traded and by creating entirely new, internationally traded digital products. The statistical definition of digital trade is based on the nature of the transaction, rather than on the characteristics of the product that is traded or on the characteristics of the actors involved in the transaction. Even if it is generally accepted that the current statistical frameworks are still well suited for measuring international trade,¹ the fact that digital trade is not visible within existing statistics hinders the ability to assess the impact of trade policy and may lead to the misperception that digitalization in trade is not measured accurately.