

MedTech Monthly

March 2026

Welcome to the March issue of MedTech Monthly, your regular update from MedTech Europe.

Trade policy rarely moves slowly, but the past few weeks have brought a notable shift in the transatlantic landscape. A US Supreme Court ruling on tariff authority has set off a chain of developments that now has EU institutions, the European Parliament, and industry all paying close attention.

Here is what is in this issue:

- **Transatlantic trade in flux:** a US court ruling is shaking up tariffs and the EU–US relationship
- **Smarter certification:** new Commission rules aim to fix unpredictable notified body timelines
- **Women's health:** why it deserves more attention, and how we'll discuss it at the Medtech Forum 2026
- **Climate and health:** MedTech Europe calls for a joined-up approach in the new resilience framework
- **Crisis preparedness:** industry takes a seat at the HERA table
- **Circular Economy Act:** 65 associations, one message: harmonise the rules
- **EU–Switzerland:** market access relations are back on track
- **IHI funding deadline:** the Innovative Health Initiative (IHI) Call 12 closes on 21 April, and there is still time to sharpen your proposal

Enjoy the read!

Highlights of the month



**EU–US trade framework:
developments on US
tariff measures**

[Clare Birmingham](#)

Manager International Affairs



**Implementing Act on Notified
Bodies requirements: a pragmatic
first step to restore predictability**

[Merlin Rietschel](#)

Senior Manager Medical Devices

Trade policy rarely moves slowly, but the past few weeks have brought a notable shift in the transatlantic landscape. A US Supreme Court ruling on tariff authority has set off a chain of developments that now has EU institutions, the European Parliament, and industry all paying close attention. [Here](#) is what has happened and why it matters for medtech.

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Getting a medical technology certified in Europe should not feel like navigating a maze. Yet for many manufacturers, unpredictable timelines and inconsistent practices across the EU have made planning genuinely difficult. A new piece of legislation from the European Commission aims to change that, and [industry is cautiously optimistic](#).

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THE MEDTECH FORUM 2026

An event by  MedTech Europe
from diagnosis to cure

11 – 13 May
Stockholm

A Spotlight on Women's Health at The MedTech Forum 2026

[Claudia Peters](#)
Events Manager


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This International Women's Day, it is worth asking a straightforward question: why does women's health remain so under-researched and under-funded, despite women accounting for more than half of healthcare demand?

Medical technology has a real role to play in closing that gap, and it will be front and centre at the MedTech Forum (MTF) 2026. Taking place from 11 to 13 May 2026 in Stockholm, MTF2026 will bring together leaders from across the medtech ecosystem to debate the innovations and policies shaping the future of healthcare.

One session in particular, "[Closing the gap: advancing women's health through medtech innovation](#)," will hear from voices across industry, healthcare, policy, and patient communities on how diagnostics, medical devices, digital health, and artificial intelligence (AI) can address long-standing disparities in research, diagnosis, and treatment across the female lifespan.

Discover the full [#MTF2026 programme](#) and secure your spot at an early bird rate until **20 March 2026**.



MedTech Views

Burnout: The hidden crisis threatening health system resilience

François Gaudemet
President, Surgery EMEA, Johnson & Johnson MedTech

In short

One Market, one voice: industry calls for common rules in Circular Economy Act

[Sigrid Linher](#), Director Sustainability & Environment

A single market should mean single rules. Yet when it comes to waste management, the EU remains a patchwork of national frameworks that slows down progress on circularity and creates unnecessary barriers for industry.

MedTech Europe is joining a broad coalition of 65 associations to push for change, ahead of the upcoming Circular Economy Act.

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IHI call 12 preparation: explore in-kind contributions and contributing partners

[Jeroen Schuermans](#), Director Strategic Initiatives

With the **21 April 2026** deadline for submitting full proposals to the [IHI call 12](#) fast approaching, now is the time to prepare a strong proposal. Join the [webinar](#) “Lifting the lid on in-kind contributions” on 11 March, and catch up on the [February session](#) “Everything you need to know about IHI contributing partners.”

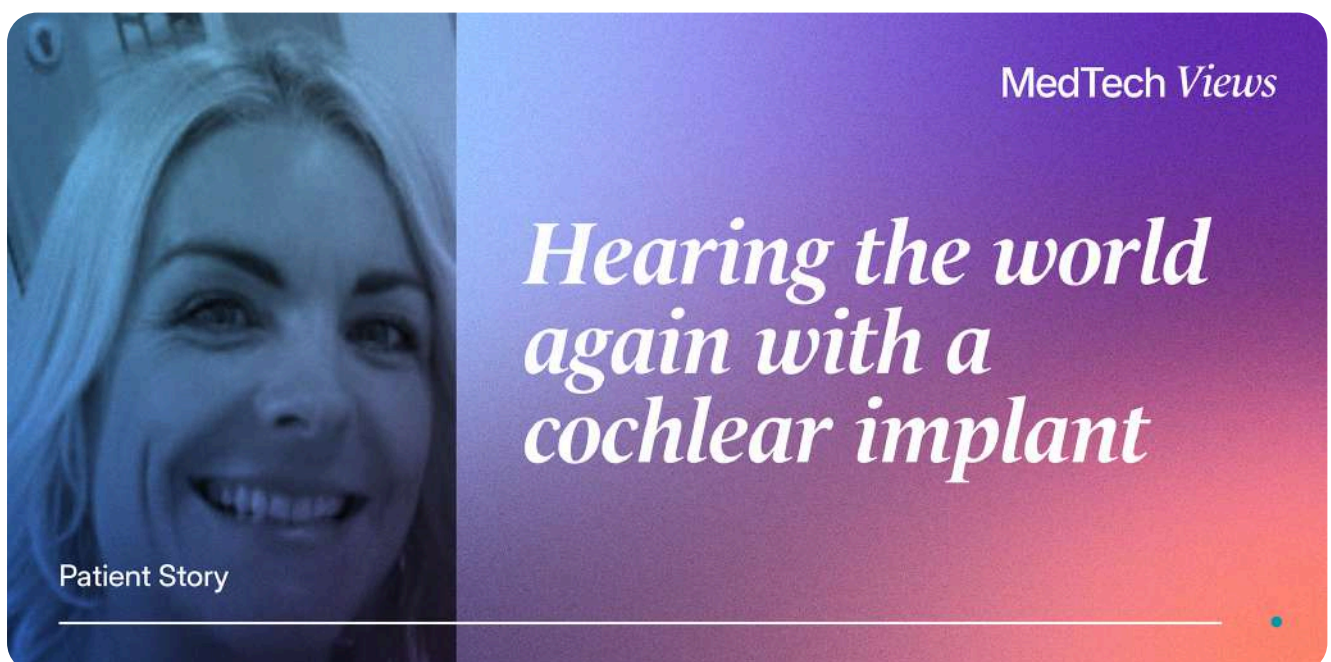
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Boosting EU–Canada SME trade: join the upcoming European Commission’s SMEs online roundtable

[Alice Bova](#), Senior Officer International Affairs

As part of the EU–Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), the European Commission is hosting an online roundtable on **20 March 2026** dedicated to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The session will provide participants with practical information and first-hand experience on trading with Canada. [Find out more](#) about the roundtable.

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MedTech Views

Hearing the world again with a cochlear implant

Patient Story

MedTech Europe joins first in-person HERA Industrial Cooperation Forum

[Georgiy Bogdanov](#), Manager Market Data

When a health crisis hits, preparedness is everything. That is why MedTech Europe took part in the first in-person meeting of the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) Industrial Cooperation Forum (ICF) in February, engaging directly with EU institutions and fellow stakeholders on how to keep medical countermeasures (MCMs) ready, accessible, and effective.

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MedTech Europe participates in European Commission consultation on Integrated Climate Resilience Framework

[Sigrid Linher](#), Director Sustainability & Environment

Climate change is not just an environmental issue, it is a healthcare issue. As extreme weather events, shifting disease patterns, and resource pressures mount, the resilience of health systems is increasingly at stake. MedTech Europe has weighed in on the European Commission's plans for a new Integrated Climate Resilience Framework, making the case that medical technology must be part of the solution.

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EU–Switzerland relations: renewed momentum on mutual recognition

[Clare Birmingham](#), Manager International Affairs

EU–Switzerland relations are moving forward. A broad package of agreements signed on 2 March 2026 updates the framework governing market access between the two sides, including a refresh of the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) that matters directly to medical technology manufacturers operating across both markets. [Here](#) is what has changed and what comes next.

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