

# Package ‘comtradr’

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**Title** Interface with the United Nations Comtrade API

**Version** 1.0.3

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**Description** Interface with and extract data from the United Nations 'Comtrade' API <<https://comtradeplus.un.org/>>. 'Comtrade' provides country level shipping data for a variety of commodities, these functions allow for easy API query and data returned as a tidy data frame.

**Depends** R (>= 4.1.0)

**Imports** lifecycle, fs, readr, askpass, cli, httr2, rlang, stringr, poorman, lubridate, purrr, tools, rappdirs, memoise, cachem

**Suggests** covr, dplyr, ggplot2, httptest2, knitr, rmarkdown, spelling, testthat (>= 3.0.0), callr

**License** GPL-3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

**URL** <https://docs.ropensci.org/comtradr/>,  
<https://github.com/ropensci/comtradr>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/ropensci/comtradr/issues>

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**VignetteBuilder** knitr

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**Language** en-US

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country_codes	<i>Country codes</i>
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### Description

A full dataset of all reporter and partner codes available in the UN Comtrade database.

### Usage

country\_codes

**Format**

country\_codes A dataframe with 312 rows and eight columns:

**id** Unique country code.

**country** Name of the country (in English).

**iso\_3** The country's ISO 3 code.

**entry\_year** The country's entry into the international system or 1900 (whichever is largest).

**exit\_year** The country's exit from the international system, if applicable.

**group** Indicates whether the entity is a group of countries. For example, ASEAN or the European Union.

**reporter** Indicates whether the country is a reporter in the UN Comtrade database.

**partner** Indicates whether the country can be reported on by others in the UN Comtrade database. Not all partners are reporters. For example, the World cannot report its trade values.

**Source**

<https://comtradeapi.un.org/files/v1/app/reference/Reporters.json> and <https://comtradeapi.un.org/files/v1/app/reference/partnerAreas.json>

---

ct\_commodity\_db\_type    *ct\_commodity\_db\_type*

---

**Description**

This function is deprecated. There is currently no alternative for this function. **[Superseded]**

**Usage**

```
ct_commodity_db_type(...)
```

**Arguments**

...                      Used to catch all possible arguments that users have supplied to this function.

**Value**

depreciation error

**Examples**

```
# no examples because only legacy function
```

---

ct\_commodity\_lookup     *UN Comtrade commodities database query*

---

## Description

The Comtrade API requires that searches for specific commodities be done using commodity codes. This is a helper function for querying the Comtrade commodity database. It takes as input a vector of commodities or commodity codes. Output is a list or vector of commodity descriptions or codes associated with the input search\_terms. For use with the UN Comtrade API, full API docs can be found at <https://unstats.un.org/wiki/display/comtrade/>

## Usage

```
ct_commodity_lookup(
  search_terms,
  return_code = FALSE,
  commodity_classification = "HS",
  type = "goods",
  return_char = FALSE,
  verbose = TRUE,
  ignore.case = TRUE,
  update = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

search_terms	Commodity names or commodity codes, as a char or numeric vector.
return_code	Logical, if set to FALSE, the function will return a set of commodity descriptions along with commodity codes (as a single string for each match found), if set to TRUE it will return only the commodity codes. Default value is FALSE.
commodity_classification	The trade classification scheme. Possible values for goods: c('HS', 'S1', 'S2', 'S3', 'S4', 'SS', 'B4', for services: c('EB02', 'EB10', 'EB10S', 'EB'). Default: 'HS'.
type	The type of returned trade data. Possible values: 'goods' for trade in goods, 'services' for trade in services. Default: 'goods'.
return_char	Logical, if set to FALSE, the function will return the matches as a named list, if set to TRUE it will return them as a character vector. Default value is FALSE.
verbose	Logical, if set to TRUE, a warning message will print to console if any of the elements of input "search_terms" returned no matches (message will indicate which elements returned no data). Default is TRUE.
ignore.case	logical, to be passed along to arg ignore.case within <a href="#">grepl</a> . Default value is TRUE.
update	If TRUE, downloads possibly updated reference tables from the UN. Default: FALSE.
...	additional args to be passed along to <a href="#">grepl</a> .

**Details**

This function uses regular expressions (regex) to find matches within the commodity DB. This means it will treat as a match any commodity description that contains the input search term. For more on using regex within R, see <https://stat.ethz.ch/R-manual/R-devel/library/base/html/regex.html>

**Value**

A list or character vector of commodity descriptions and/or commodity codes that are matches with the elements of "search\_terms".

**See Also**

[grepl](#)

**Examples**

```
comtradr::ct_commodity_lookup("wine")
```

---

ct_country_lookup	<i>ct_country_lookup</i>
-------------------	--------------------------

---

**Description**

This function is deprecated. You can use `country_codes` to return a dataset with all possible country codes, but in general the specification of iso 3 codes makes a look-up unnecessary. **[Superseded]**

**Usage**

```
ct_country_lookup(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Used to catch all possible arguments that users have supplied to this function.

**Value**

depreciation error

**Examples**

```
# no examples because only legacy function
```

---

 ct\_get\_bulk

 Get trade data from the UN Comtrade API
 

---

## Description

This function queries the UN Comtrade API to retrieve international trade data. It allows for detailed specification of the query, including the type of data (goods or services), frequency (annual or monthly), commodity classification, flow direction, and more. By providing everything for certain parameters, you can query all possible values. The function is opinionated in that it already verifies certain parameters for you and is more than a pure wrapper around the API.

## Usage

```
ct_get_bulk(
  type = "goods",
  frequency = "A",
  commodity_classification = "HS",
  reporter = "all_countries",
  start_date = NULL,
  end_date = NULL,
  tidy_cols = TRUE,
  verbose = FALSE,
  primary_token = get_primary_comtrade_key(),
  update = FALSE,
  requests_per_second = 10/60,
  cache = FALSE,
  download_bulk_files = TRUE
)
```

## Arguments

type	The type of returned trade data. Possible values: 'goods' for trade in goods, 'services' for trade in services. Default: 'goods'.
frequency	The frequency of returned trade data. Possible values: 'A' for annual data, 'M' for monthly data. Default: 'A'.
commodity_classification	The trade classification scheme. Possible values for goods: c('HS', 'H0', 'H1', 'H2', 'H3', 'H4', 'H5', c('S1', 'S2', 'S3', 'S4', 'SS', 'B4', 'B5')); for services: c('EB02', 'EB10', 'EB10S', 'EB'). Default: 'HS'.
reporter	Reporter ISO3 code(s), everything or all_countries. See <code>comtradr::country_codes</code> or <code>comtradr::ct_get_ref_table('reporter')</code> for possible values. <code>all_countries</code> returns all countries without aggregates everything returns all possible parameters. Default: 'all_countries'.
start_date	The start date of the query. Format: yyyy for yearly, yyyy-mm for monthly.
end_date	The end date of the query. Format: yyyy for yearly, yyyy-mm for monthly. Max: 12 years after start date for annual data, one year for monthly data.

tidy_cols	If TRUE, returns tidy column names. If FALSE, returns raw column names. Default: TRUE.
verbose	If TRUE, sends status updates to the console. If FALSE, runs functions quietly. Default: FALSE.
primary_token	Your primary UN Comtrade API token. Default: stored token from <code>comtrade::set_primary_comtrade</code> .
update	If TRUE, downloads possibly updated reference tables from the UN. Default: FALSE.
requests_per_second	Rate of requests per second executed, usually specified as a fraction, e.g. 10/60 for 10 requests per minute, see <code>req_throttle()</code> for details.
cache	A logical value to determine, whether requests should be cached or not. If set to True, <code>tools::R_user_dir(which = 'cache')</code> is used to determine the location of the cache. Use the <code>.Renv</code> file to set the <code>R_USER_CACHE_DIR</code> in order to change this location. Default: False.
download_bulk_files	If TRUE downloads all files that are returned from the Comtrade API as a list for the specified parameters. This can result in large writing and reading operations from your file system.

## Details

The UN Comtrade database provides a repository of official international trade statistics and relevant analytical tables. It contains annual trade statistics starting from 1988 and monthly trade statistics since 2000 for goods data

Parameters that accept everything will query all possible values. For example, setting `commodity_code = 'everything'` will retrieve data for all commodity codes. This can be useful for broad queries but may result in large datasets.

## Value

A `data.frame` with trade data or, if `process = FALSE`, a `httr2` response object.

---

ct\_get\_data

*Get trade data from the UN Comtrade API*

---

## Description

This function queries the UN Comtrade API to retrieve international trade data. It allows for detailed specification of the query, including the type of data (goods or services), frequency (annual or monthly), commodity classification, flow direction, and more. By providing `everything` for certain parameters, you can query all possible values. The function is opinionated in that it already verifies certain parameters for you and is more than a pure wrapper around the API.

**Usage**

```

ct_get_data(
  type = "goods",
  frequency = "A",
  commodity_classification = "HS",
  commodity_code = "TOTAL",
  flow_direction = c("Import", "Export", "Re-export", "Re-import"),
  reporter = "all_countries",
  partner = "World",
  start_date = NULL,
  end_date = NULL,
  process = TRUE,
  tidy_cols = TRUE,
  verbose = FALSE,
  primary_token = get_primary_comtrade_key(),
  mode_of_transport = "TOTAL modes of transport",
  partner_2 = "World",
  customs_code = "C00",
  update = FALSE,
  requests_per_second = 10/60,
  extra_params = NULL,
  cache = FALSE
)

```

**Arguments**

<code>type</code>	The type of returned trade data. Possible values: 'goods' for trade in goods, 'services' for trade in services. Default: 'goods'.
<code>frequency</code>	The frequency of returned trade data. Possible values: 'A' for annual data, 'M' for monthly data. Default: 'A'.
<code>commodity_classification</code>	The trade classification scheme. Possible values for goods: c('HS', 'S1', 'S2', 'S3', 'S4', 'SS', 'B4', for services: c('EB02', 'EB10', 'EB10S', 'EB')). Default: 'HS'.
<code>commodity_code</code>	The commodity code(s) or everything for all possible codes. See <code>comtradr::ct_get_ref_table('HS')</code> for possible values. Default: 'TOTAL' (sum of all commodities).
<code>flow_direction</code>	The direction of trade flows or everything. Possible values can be found in <code>ct_get_ref_table('flow_direction')</code> . These are implemented case-insensitive, 'import' and 'Import' are equivalent. Default: c('import', 'export', 're-export', 're-import').
<code>reporter</code>	Reporter ISO3 code(s), everything or <code>all_countries</code> . See <code>comtradr::country_codes</code> or <code>comtradr::ct_get_ref_table('reporter')</code> for possible values. <code>all_countries</code> returns all countries without aggregates everything returns all possible parameters. Default: 'all_countries'.
<code>partner</code>	Partner ISO3 code(s), everything or <code>all_countries</code> . See <code>comtradr::country_codes</code> for possible values. <code>all_countries</code> returns all countries without aggregates everything returns all possible parameters, incl. aggregates like World. Default: 'World' (all partners as an aggregate).



start_date	The start date of the query. Format: yyyy for yearly, yyyy-mm for monthly.
end_date	The end date of the query. Format: yyyy for yearly, yyyy-mm for monthly. Max: 12 years after start date for annual data, one year for monthly data.
process	If TRUE, returns a data.frame with results. If FALSE, returns the raw httr2 request. Default: TRUE.
tidy_cols	If TRUE, returns tidy column names. If FALSE, returns raw column names. Default: TRUE.
verbose	If TRUE, sends status updates to the console. If FALSE, runs functions quietly. Default: FALSE.
primary_token	Your primary UN Comtrade API token. Default: stored token from <code>comtradr::set_primary_comtrade</code> .
mode_of_transport	Text code of mode of transport or everything for all possible parameters. See <code>ct_get_ref_table(dataset_id = 'mode_of_transport')</code> for possible values. Default: 'TOTAL modes of transport' (TOTAL).
partner_2	Partner 2 ISO3 code(s), everything or all_countries. See <code>comtradr::country_codes</code> for possible values. <code>all_countries</code> returns all countries without aggregates <code>everything</code> returns all possible parameters, incl. aggregates like World. Default: 'World' (all partners as an aggregate).
customs_code	Customs Code ID or everything for all possible parameters. See <code>ct_get_ref_table(dataset_id = 'customs_code')</code> for possible values. Default: 'C00' (TOTAL).
update	If TRUE, downloads possibly updated reference tables from the UN. Default: FALSE.
requests_per_second	Rate of requests per second executed, usually specified as a fraction, e.g. 10/60 for 10 requests per minute, see <code>req_throttle()</code> for details.
extra_params	Additional parameters to the API, passed as query parameters without checking. Please provide a named list to this parameter. Default: NULL.
cache	A logical value to determine, whether requests should be cached or not. If set to True, <code>tools::R_user_dir(which = 'cache')</code> is used to determine the location of the cache. Use the <code>.Renv</code> file to set the <code>R_USER_CACHE_DIR</code> in order to change this location. Default: False.

## Details

The UN Comtrade database provides a repository of official international trade statistics and relevant analytical tables. It contains annual trade statistics starting from 1988 and monthly trade statistics since 2000 for goods data

Parameters that accept everything will query all possible values. For example, setting `commodity_code = 'everything'` will retrieve data for all commodity codes. This can be useful for broad queries but may result in large datasets.

## Value

A data.frame with trade data or, if `process = F`, a httr2 response object.

## Examples

```
# Query goods data for China's trade with Argentina and Germany in 2019
ct_get_data(
  type = "goods",
  commodity_classification = "HS",
  commodity_code = "TOTAL",
  reporter = "CHN",
  partner = c("ARG", "DEU"),
  start_date = "2019",
  end_date = "2019",
  flow_direction = "Import",
  partner_2 = "World",
  verbose = TRUE
)

# Query all commodity codes for China's imports from Germany in 2019
ct_get_data(
  commodity_code = "everything",
  reporter = "CHN",
  partner = "DEU",
  start_date = "2019",
  end_date = "2019",
  flow_direction = "Import"
)

# Query all commodity codes for China's imports from Germany
# from January to June of 2019
ct_get_data(
  commodity_code = "everything",
  reporter = "CHN",
  partner = "DEU",
  start_date = "2019",
  end_date = "2019",
  flow_direction = "import"
)
```

---

ct\_get\_ref\_table

*Get reference table from package data*

---

## Description

The first time, the function will read from disk, the second time from the environment. In the case of a necessary update the new data will be saved to the environment for the current session. You can use this table to look at the reference tables and if necessary extract respective classification codes by hand. In general we would recommend the function `ct_commodity_lookup` for this purpose. It uses the present function in the backend.

**Usage**

```
ct_get_ref_table(dataset_id, update = FALSE, verbose = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

dataset_id	The dataset ID, which is either partner, reporter or a valid classification scheme.
update	If TRUE, downloads possibly updated reference tables from the UN. Default: FALSE.
verbose	If TRUE, sends status updates to the console. If FALSE, runs functions quietly. Default: FALSE.

**Details**

The function allows you to query most possible input parameters that are listed by the Comtrade API. The following dataset\_ids are permitted:

- Datasets that contain codes for the commodity\_code argument. The name is the same as you would provide under commodity\_classification.
  - 'HS' This is probably the most common classification for goods.
  - 'B4'
  - 'B5'
  - 'EB02'
  - 'EB10'
  - 'EB10S'
  - 'EB'
  - 'S1'
  - 'S2'
  - 'S3'
  - 'S4'
  - 'SS'
- 'reporter'
- 'partner'
- 'mode\_of\_transport'
- 'customs\_code'
- 'flow\_direction'

**Value**

a tidy dataset with a reference table

**Examples**

```
## get HS commodity table
ct_get_ref_table("HS")

## get reporter table
ct_get_ref_table("reporter")
```

---

```
ct_get_remaining_hourly_queries
    ct_get_remaining_hourly_queries
```

---

**Description**

This function is deprecated. There is no more reset time, as the upper limit of 250 calls per day is enforced daily. **[Superseded]**

**Usage**

```
ct_get_remaining_hourly_queries(...)
```

**Arguments**

...                   Used to catch all possible arguments that users have supplied to this function.

**Value**

depreciation error

**Examples**

```
# no examples because only legacy function
```

---

```
ct_get_reset_time      ct_get_reset_time
```

---

**Description**

This function is deprecated. There is no more reset time, as the upper limit of 250 calls per day is enforced daily. **[Superseded]**

**Usage**

```
ct_get_reset_time(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Used to catch all possible arguments that users have supplied to this function.

**Value**

depreciation error

**Examples**

```
# no examples because only legacy function
```

---

ct_migrate_cache	<i>Migrate cache to new location</i>
------------------	--------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Comtradr versions previous to version 1.0.1 have used a cache location that was not CRAN compliant. You can migrate any remaining files to the new cache location using this function. It will delete the old cache.

**Usage**

```
ct_migrate_cache()
```

**Value**

Nothing

**Examples**

```
ct_migrate_cache()
```

---

ct_pretty_cols	<i>ct_pretty_cols</i>
----------------	-----------------------

---

**Description**

A data.frame with a matched list of tidy and untidy column names for the results.

**Usage**

```
ct_pretty_cols
```

**Format**

country\_codes A dataframe with 47 rows and two columns:

**to** tidy columns

**from** original column names

---

ct_register_token	<i>ct_register_token</i>
-------------------	--------------------------

---

**Description**

This function is deprecated. Please use `set_primary_comtrade_key()` instead. **[Superseded]**

**Usage**

```
ct_register_token(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Used to catch all possible arguments that users have supplied to this function.

**Value**

depreciation error

**Examples**

```
# no examples because only legacy function
```

---

ct_search	<i>ct_search</i>
-----------	------------------

---

**Description**

This function is deprecated Please use `ct_get_data()` instead. **[Superseded]**

**Usage**

```
ct_search(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Used to catch all possible arguments that users have supplied to this function.

**Value**

depreciation error

**Examples**

```
# no examples because only legacy function
```

---

ct\_update\_databases    *ct\_update\_databases*

---

**Description**

This function is deprecated. Please use update parameter in the main ct\_get\_data function instead. **[Superseded]**

**Usage**

```
ct_update_databases(...)
```

**Arguments**

...                    Used to catch all possible arguments that users have supplied to this function.

**Value**

depreciation error

**Examples**

```
# no examples because only legacy function
```

---

ct\_use\_pretty\_cols    *ct\_use\_pretty\_cols*

---

**Description**

This function is deprecated. Please use the process argument in the main function instead. **[Superseded]**

**Usage**

```
ct_use_pretty_cols(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Used to catch all possible arguments that users have supplied to this function.

**Value**

depreciation error

**Examples**

```
# no examples because only legacy function
```

---

```
get_primary_comtrade_key  
  get_primary_comtrade_key
```

---

**Description**

If you would like your Comtrade API key to persist in between sessions, use `usethis::edit_r_environ()` to add the env variable `COMTRADE_PRIMARY` to your environment file.

**Usage**

```
get_primary_comtrade_key()
```

**Value**

Gets your primary comtrade key from the environment var `COMTRADE_PRIMARY`

**Examples**

```
## get API key  
get_primary_comtrade_key()
```



---

`set_primary_comtrade_key`*Set your primary Comtrade API key in the environment variable*

---

**Description**

If you would like your Comtrade API key to persist in between sessions, use `usethis::edit_r_environ()` to add the env variable `COMTRADE_PRIMARY` to your environment file.

**Usage**

```
set_primary_comtrade_key(key = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

<code>key</code>	Provide your primary comtrade key
------------------	-----------------------------------

**Value**

Saves your comtrade primary key in the environment.

**Examples**

```
## set API key  
set_primary_comtrade_key("xxxxxc678ca4dbxxxxxxx8285r3")
```

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