

TRANSATLANTIC TRADE AND INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (TTIP)

BACKGROUND

The EU and the US are one another's largest economic partners. Together, they represent about half of the world's gross domestic product and one third of world trade. The magnitude of the transatlantic economic exchange and the chance to further boost growth and create jobs provided the initial impetus for launching talks on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). As bilateral customs duties are already relatively low, the TTIP aims to go beyond tariff reduction and tackle behind-the-border barriers. Today, after seven rounds of negotiations, the initial enthusiasm has given way to defensive positions, with both partners focused on their own markets.

The European Parliament's Committee on International Trade and a number of committees treating the Union's internal policies are following the negotiations while the President chairs a working group to coordinate the Parliament's approach. The EP has generally supported the negotiations, while expressing caution about several sensitive issues. Papers produced by the Policy Departments have addressed these and other issues, including the agreement's potential implications on EU Member States and third countries, the US Congress's view of the Partnership, and its impact on areas such as employment and agriculture.



INSIDE

This leaflet provides a compilation of papers prepared by the European Parliament's Policy Departments in relation to the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership.

Scan the QR code or just click on the title of the publication to access it directly.

PUBLICATIONS

Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations: state of play – August 2014



The negotiations on a comprehensive Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) started in June 2013, with enormous political support on both sides of the Atlantic. One year on, after seven rounds of negotiations, initial enthusiasm in view of an agreement which would create a transatlantic market free of tariffs and other non-tariff barriers with the aim of boosting growth and creating additional jobs, both in the EU and the US, has given way to defence of own markets. An investment chapter that includes sound investment protection provisions and an Investor-State Dispute Settlement clause appears to be the most contentious issue on the EU side. **(Available in EN and DE)**



The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP): the US Congress's positions - September 2014



The US Congress exercises a regulatory and oversight role in international trade. To date, the Congress has played an active role in the negotiations on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), overseeing the negotiations, gathering the views of key stakeholders during hearings and events it has organised, and flagging issues it considers politically important. While the US Congress has been broadly supportive of the negotiations, there appears to be no political consensus on a number of key issues under consideration. Contentious issues include agriculture, intellectual property rights, regulatory cooperation and the EU's access to the US public procurement and energy markets.

(Available in EN)



The expected impact of the TTIP on EU Member States and selected third countries - September 2014



The ex-ante impact assessment undertaken by the European Commission has stressed mostly extremely positive effects that the future TTIP could have on the EU economy as a whole. Several independent studies, both general and regional, have generally confirmed the expected benefits to the EU economy as a whole, but they often diverge as far as given economic sectors or Member States are concerned. Two other studies dealing with impact on third countries have revealed that preferential partners of both the EU and the US may face severe losses should the deal be finally concluded following the most optimist scenario (full liberalisation).



(Available in EN)

Civil society's concerns about the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership - October 2014



When the EU and the US launched negotiations on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) in June 2013, civil society was invited to play 'a constructive and engaged part in defining the content' of this strategic deal. The agreement has been seen by some as a way to strengthen the West's weakening grip on the world economy, and by others as a tool for big multinationals to secure unfair advantages at the expense of the rest of society. Civil society groups have come forward with various proposals that reflect their interests.



(Available in EN)

The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and Labour - November 2014



This briefing provides an overview of labour provisions in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). After a summary of its scope, state and EP involvement it analyses the evolution of labour provisions in trade and investment agreements with a view to similarities and differences in the EU and US approaches. Finally, it presents a number of employment-related issues as well as selected results from research on potential job effects.



(Available in EN)

Negotiations on the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) concluded - October 2014



The Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (CETA) between the EU and Canada, on which negotiations were concluded, should be evaluated by its own merits. However, the public concern around the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) with the US, may spill over onto this agreement with Canada. CETA will be a 'first' in many areas. The agreement will be the EU's first with another highly industrialised country to facilitate market access for goods, services and investment by abolishing almost all tariffs and reducing a wide array of non-tariff barriers. CETA is also the first agreement to have been negotiated with a sound chapter on investment protection, (including Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) provisions) – an area that finds itself in the centre of the controversy around the TTIP. (Available in EN and DE)



ENVI relevant legislative areas of the EU-US Trade and Investment Partnership negotiations (TTIP) - October 2014



This study aims to support Members of the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) in monitoring on-going negotiations for a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). It analyses the main differences between EU and US legislation in eight areas, namely: human medicines and medical devices, cosmetics, food and nutrition, sanitary and phyto-sanitary, nanomaterials, cloning, raw materials and energy, and motor vehicles. Existing collaboration between the EU and US, progress already achieved in the negotiations and potential future developments in these areas are also addressed. (Available in EN)



Investor - State Dispute Settlement provisions in the EU's International Investment Agreements (Volume 1, Volume 2) - September 2014



Workshop and Study explain how investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) provisions in the EU's international investment agreements have developed from the past to present-day bilateral investment treaties (BITs) that have grown in sophistication. Furthermore, explain how such BITs combine elements of the historical international law doctrine and their property and investments and of commercial arbitration. As well as how such agreements are linked to international dispute settlement treaties or centres. Furthermore, issues connected with including investor-state dispute settlement ('ISDS') in future EU agreements and possible alternatives of dispute resolution in international investment law are tackled. Finally, there is reference to the interrelation of international investment protection agreements and EU law.

(Available in EN)



Risks and opportunities for the EU agri-food sector in a possible EU-US trade agreement - July 2014



The study provides a detailed overview of EU-US agricultural trade and analyses current barriers to trade, paying special attention to existing non-tariff measures which are considered being still significantly affecting transatlantic trade in agricultural goods. Based on the Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) model, the potential impact of the future TTIP on agri-food exports, imports and value added suggests that a 25 % reduction of NTMs across the board and a full phasing-out of tariff protection would increase additional transatlantic trade by about 40 %. Furthermore, it contains a general discussion on the opportunities and risks of a TTIP for the EU's agricultural sector. (Available in EN)



The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership and the parliamentary dimension of regulatory cooperation - April 2014



The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) also attempts to remove regulatory divergence – today's most prominent obstacle to trade exchanges by addressing regulatory differences and how to bridge them; providing a 'gateway' for handling sectoral regulatory issues between the EU and the US, including by addressing both legislation and non-legislative acts, regardless of the level at which they are adopted and by whom. The study examines the potential parliamentary roles, and their implications for the EU legal order – including issues of transparency, democracy, and accountability and puts forward recommendations with regard to interactions with the parties' respective legislatures, the European Parliament and the US Congress. (Available in FR, EN and DE)



Financial Services in EU trade agreements - October 2014



This study provides an overview of rules concerning trade in financial services in a range of recent preferential trade agreements (PTA) to which the EU is a party, in view of on-going negotiations with the US over the TTIP. EU Member States are collectively the world's largest exporters of financial services, and the sector is of strategic importance in the EU's trade policy. In its trade agreements with Korea, Singapore, Colombia/Peru, Central America and CARIFORUM, and its on-going negotiations with Canada, the EU has sought and obtained considerable concessions in the sector which go beyond those agreed multilaterally in the WTO. (Available in EN)



TTIP impacts on European energy markets and manufacturing industries - January 2015



This study aims at assessing whether and to which extent European energy markets and manufacturing industries would be affected by the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). It reviews the opportunities and challenges TTIP could create for EU energy markets and manufacturing industries. According to the authors, TTIP will improve the EU's security of energy supply through adding liquidity and competition to the natural gas market. It will not directly lower either environmental or social legislation, but the authors point out the risks of weakening the implementation of legislation such as REACH and Fuel Quality Directive.

(Available in EN)



POLICY DEPARTMENTS

There are five policy departments within DG IPOL and DG EXPO. They are responsible for providing - both in-house and external- high-level independent expertise, analysis and policy advice at the request of committees and other parliamentary bodies (delegations, President, Bureau, Secretary-General). Their expertise covers all areas of activity of the European Parliament. They are closely involved in the work of committees which they support in shaping legislation on and exercising democratic scrutiny over EU policies.

Outputs: Most frequently prepared at the request of a European Parliament committee or delegation, the written output of the policy departments comprises a wide range of products, including studies, in-depth country- or issue-specific analyses, briefings examining issues of strategic importance, as well as notes containing short EU-oriented analyses of recent events or developments. They serve a variety of purposes: they can feed directly into the legislative work of a specific committee or serve as a briefing for delegations of members. The policy departments also draft the Fact Sheets on the EU, which provide an overview of European integration and of the European Parliament's contribution to that process. Furthermore, they provide background notes and speaking points.

Events: The policy departments organise events that enhance Parliament's analytical capacity and develop common approaches to current political issues. Public workshops bringing together groups of experts are organised to provide independent expertise via written and oral presentations. Expert panels are set up to provide members with regular written contributions or to feed into the parliamentary debate during meetings. Studies are generally presented during committee meetings.

Scrutiny: Policy departments provide research support to enhance the European Parliament's capacity to monitor EU negotiations and the implementation of international agreements. They have also developed an in-house methodology to scrutinise EU-funded projects.

CONTACTS

Policy Department A - Economic and Scientific Policy

ECON - ENVI - EMPL - IMCO - ITRE
poldep-economy-science@ep.europa.eu

Policy Department B - Structural and Cohesion Policies

AGRI - CULT - PECH - REGI - TRAN
poldep-cohesion@ep.europa.eu

Policy Department C - Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs

AFCO - FEMM - JURI - LIBE - PETI
poldep-citizens@ep.europa.eu

Policy Department D - Budgetary Affairs

BUDG - CONT
poldep-budg@ep.europa.eu

Policy Department - External Policies

AFET - DEVE - DROI - INTA - SEDE
poldep-expo@ep.europa.eu

FACT SHEETS ON THE EU

The Fact Sheets provide an overview of European integration and of the European Parliament's contribution to that process. They cover six main themes:

- how the European Union works;
- citizens' Europe;
- the internal market;
- the economic and monetary union;
- sectoral policies; and
- the EU's external relations.

The online version is reviewed and updated regularly throughout the year.



All Fact Sheets:

www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

The *Monthly highlights* provide an overview, at a glance, of the on-going work of the policy departments, including a selection of the latest and forthcoming publications, and a list of future events. To receive this publication send an email to: ep-policydepartments@ep.europa.eu

SUPPORTING ANALYSES

Access all Studies, In-depth analyses, Briefings and At a glance notes produced by the Policy Departments.



All publications:

www.europarl.europa.eu/studies