Highlights

During the 15-16 June meeting INTA will adopt its position on the EU’s New Trade Strategy. It will examine sustainability of the global value chains and will debate measures for combating illegal logging and promoting legitimate timber trade. Members will consider a proposal to ratify a development-oriented trade deal with the Southern African Development Community and will discuss proposals to revamp the EU-Mexico trade relationship. Trade MEPs will be briefed on the political agreement reached on the "Anti-torture Regulation" and will hear back reports from the recent INTA missions to South Korea and the Parliamentary Conference on the WTO in Geneva. The 30 June meeting will be dedicated to the exchange of views with Commissioner Malmström and a follow-up report on the Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA).

Next meetings:

**Wednesday 15 June**, 09.00-12.30 & 15.00-18.30
Altiero Spinelli 3G-3

**Thursday 16 June**, 09.00-12.30
József Antall 2Q2 (09.00-10.00); Altiero Spinelli 3G-3 (10.00-12.30)

**Thursday 30 June**, 09.00-12.30
József Antall 4Q1

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Recent events and selected trade news 4
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Coming soon 9
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Draft agenda & documents
Webstreaming
Parliamentarians debate the future of the WTO

Parliamentary conference on the WTO

A delegation of MEPs led by the INTA chair Bernd Lange were joined by trade parliamentarians from all over the world to discuss the future of the world trade. The WTO needs to ensure more transparency and inclusiveness in negotiation process in order to achieve more far-reaching deals, said Bernd Lange when opening the an annual session of the Parliamentary Conference on the World Trade organization (PCWTO), held in Geneva on 13-14 June. Members discussed the post-Nairobi agenda, the gender perspective on trade and held dialogue with senior WTO negotiators and officials.

Press release

Meeting highlights (15-16 & 30/06/2016)

INTA to adopt its position on the EU's trade strategy

While largely supportive of the Commission`s new trade strategy, Trade MEPs will vote on proposals to further enhance the following priorities:

- Transparency and public scrutiny of trade talks
- Monitoring, evaluation and follow-up of existing agreements
- Transparency in global value chains (GVCs), respecting fundamental values and standards
- Coherence between the EU’s commercial objectives and other external policies
- A tailor-made approach in the choice of FTA negotiations
- Reforming and strengthening the WTO
- Greater attention to the specific needs of SMEs
- Fight against corruption, money laundering and tax fraud via trade and investment agreements
- Trade negotiations as a tool to promote gender equality worldwide
- Modernisation of trade defence instruments

Procedure file
Boosting sustainability of global value chains

Production, trade and investment are increasingly channelled through global value chains (GVCs), with the different stages of the production process spread across the globe. This challenges the conventional policies and new approaches are needed to ensure that increased growth and productivity resulting from the participation in the GVCs does not come at the expense of core labour, social and environmental standards and human rights. INTA Members will debate with the experts from the OECD, businesses, trade unions and civil society ways for trade policies to support the sustainable and inclusive economic growth in the context of the global value chains.

Programme and speakers

Fighting illicit timber trade

Illegal logging and related trade is a persistent global problem that the EU addresses through the Action Plan on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) in place since 2003. The cornerstones of this action plan are bilateral voluntary partnership agreements (VPAs) between the EU and wood exporting countries, committing both parties to trading only legally harvested timber and timber products. The EU Timber Regulation (EU/995/2010) is the key instrument focusing on the demand side. Members of the INTA, ENVI and DEVE committees will quiz the European Commission on the effectiveness and coherence of the EU policies and actions in this field.

VPA partner countries

INTA readies for ratification of EPA with Southern African region

The Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the EU and six countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) was signed in Botswana on 10 June 2016. INTA will discuss a draft recommendation to give consent to the agreement with Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland and South Africa, which can only be applied after receiving consent of the European Parliament. The EPA opens to the partner countries a duty and quota free access to a 500 million consumer market thus creating incentives for growth. The agreement protects geographical indications of such South African products as Karoo meat or Rooibos tea. Furthermore, the EPA offers potential for regional integration with an aim to boost intra-regional trade, reinforced by flexible rules of origins. The agreement includes a chapter on sustainable development and makes commitment to uphold social and environmental standards.

Press release
Modernisation of the trade pillar of the EU-Mexico Global Agreement

Presentation of the study

A few days after the official launch of the negotiations and ahead of the 1st negotiating round, INTA will be presented a study on the Modernisation of the Trade Pillar of the European Union - Mexico Global Agreement. The study urges to avoid a purely cosmetic update, suggests using the model of Association Agreements and predicts challenging discussions in the areas of agriculture, movement of workers, investment protection and regulatory convergence.

Study

Monitoring Group Activities

No less than 10 INTA Monitoring Group meetings have taken place since April, when the full committee has received feedback on the activities of the INTA Monitoring Groups. INTA continues to actively monitor on-going trade negotiations as well as implementation of EU Trade Policy, thereby, engaging not only with Commission representatives, but also with a wide range of stakeholders as well as representatives of the countries concerned.

INTA Monitoring Groups

EEA agreements unlock funds for cohesion, extend fish trade concessions

Consideration of the draft recommendation

INTA will consider four agreements relating to the European Economic Area (EEA), namely the EEA Financial Mechanism Agreement, the Norwegian Financial Mechanism Agreement, the Norway Fisheries Protocol and the Iceland Fisheries Protocol. The EEA Agreement allows Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein to fully participate in the single market. These three countries have also contributed to the alleviation of economic and social disparities in the EEA on the basis of Article 115 of the EEA Agreement. In addition, Norway has contributed through a separate Norwegian Financial Mechanism. The most recent financial mechanisms expired on 30 April 2014. The newly negotiated EEA Financial Mechanism Agreement and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism Agreement will together provide a financial contribution of the EEA EFTA States to the economic and social cohesion in the EEA of 2.8 billion EUR for the period 2014-2021. The review of the EU-Iceland and EU-Norway fish trade protocols led to new concessions being granted to both countries for the period 2014-2021.

Procedure file
Recent events and selected trade news

A deal reached on tightening controls on tools of torture
INTA's negotiating team will brief members on the deal clinched during the interinstitutional 'trilogue' negotiations on the Anti-Torture Regulation. When adopted, the updated regulation will boost the EU's export control regime that contributes to the elimination of torture and capital punishment worldwide. It will do so by strengthening the oversight on transit and advertising and by extending the fast-track procedure to swiftly update the lists of controlled and prohibited products.

Plenary votes on Tunisia, Information Technology Agreement
During the 6-9 June plenary sitting, the Parliament approved €500m in new EU loans to Tunisia, backed WTO deal to end customs duties on 201 high-tech devices and urged the Council to move forward with the law on modernizing EU’s trade defence instruments.

EU-Mexico Global Agreement under modernisation
On 23 May the Council authorised the Commission to negotiate an update of the existing EU-Mexico "Global Agreement". The modernisation aims to broaden and deepen bilateral relations. The first round of negotiations is expected to take place in June.

EU and the Philippines kick-off trade talks
The first round of talks between the EU and the Philippines took place between 23 and 27 May 2016 in Brussels.
STATE OF PLAY OF EU TRADE DEFENCE INVESTIGATIONS

On 30 April 2016, there were 92 anti-dumping and 12 countervailing measures in force. Furthermore, there were undertakings in force from 3 countries covering 3 products. 43 investigations were on-going, and 6 new proceedings were initiated:

Antidumping proceedings:
- Seamless pipes and tubes of iron (other than cast iron) or steel (other than stainless steel) from P.R. China, 13.02.2016
- Hot-rolled flat products of iron, non-alloy or other alloy steel from P.R. China, 13.02.2016
- Heavy plate of non-alloy or other alloy steel from P.R. China 13.02.2016
- Lightweight thermal paper from South Korea, 18.02.2016
- Concrete reinforcement bars and rods (rebars) from Belarus, 31.03.2016

Anti-subsidy proceedings:
- Certain hot-rolled flat products of iron, non-alloy or other alloy steel originating in the People's Republic of China, 13.5.2016

The full report can be accessed [here](#).

STATE OF PLAY OF EU TRADE DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

EU appeals in the biodiesel case
The EU appealed to the Appellate Body regarding the panel report on Anti-Dumping Measures on Biodiesel from Argentina (WT/DS473). The EU claims that the panel report contains several errors:

- the Panel erred when finding that the European Union acted "failing to calculate the cost of production of the product under investigation on the basis of the records kept by the producers".
- the Panel erred when finding that the European Union violated WTO rules by "using a "cost" that was not the cost prevailing "in the country of origin", namely, Argentina, in the construction of the normal value".
- the Panel erred when finding that the European Union acted inconsistently with WTO rules by "imposing anti-dumping duties in excess of the margin of dumping that should have been established."
Adopted in previous INTA meeting:

24/05/2016

- **Macro-financial assistance to Tunisia**  
  Rapporteur: Marielle de Sarnez (ALDE)

  Vote on draft report

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- **Uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles**  
  Rapporteur: Bernd Lange (S&D)

  Vote on draft recommendation (consent)

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- **Expansion of Trade in Information Technology Products (ITA)**  
  Rapporteur: Godelieve Quisthoudt-Rowohl (PPE)

  Vote on draft recommendation (consent)

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- **US sanctions impacting EU business in Iran**

  Vote on the question for oral answer

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- **Directive of the European parliament and of the Council on the Union legal framework for customs infringements and sanctions**  
  Rapporteur: Franck Proust (PPE)

  Vote on draft opinion

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- **Preparation of the post-electoral revision of the MFF 2014-2020: Parliament’s input ahead of the Commission’s proposal**  
  Rapporteur: Reimer Böge (PPE)

  Vote on draft opinion

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Publications

Latest publications from DG EXPO Policy Department

- Analysis of the Prospects for Updating the Trade Pillar of the European Union-Chile Association Agreement
- Workshop on "Bringing EU-Turkey Trade and Investment Relations Up to Date?"
- Tailor-Made Support for SMEs towards Effective Implementation of the EU’s Trade and Investment Strategy

Upcoming publications from DG EXPO Policy Department

- Market Economy status to China: the potential economic impacts for the EU
- Financial services liberalisation and TISA: which implications for the EU?

See more

Recent publications by the EP Research Service

Major EU-China antidumping cases
Gisela Grieger, EPRS Briefing, May 2016, 4 p.
In 2015, China again was by far the primary target of antidumping (AD) investigations initiated by the European Commission, with a total of 53 definitive AD measures in force against Chinese products by the end of that year.

State-owned enterprise (SOE) reforms in China: A decisive role for the market at last?
Gisela Grieger, EPRS Briefing, May 2016, 4 p.
SOEs continue to play a key role in China's political economy, although after more than three decades of experimental and gradual reforms, aimed at preserving rather than eliminating them, their economic significance in terms of output, profit and employment has diminished with the expansion of the private sector.

Calculation of dumping margins: EU and US rules and practices in light of the debate on China's Market Economy Status
Laura Puccio, EPRS In-Depth Analysis, May 2016, 34 p.
The method for dumping margin calculations differs depending whether the country of export is considered a market economy or a non-market economy (NME), and NME methodologies normally lead to higher antidumping duties. The differences in the way dumping margins are calculated for market economies and NME are at the centre of the current debate on Market Economy Status for China.

Russia: Economic indicators and trade with EU
New print and online books in the EP Research Service library collection

**Chine, Inde : les firmes au coeur de l’émersion**
sous la direction de Jean-François Huchet, Xavier Richet et Joël Ruet, Presses universitaires de Rennes, 149 p., 2015
"Une analyse de la trajectoire des firmes indiennes et chinoises et de leur contribution à la croissance de leur pays. L'ouvrage aborde également le phénomène d'internationalisation des entreprises, l'importance de l'innovation dans le soutien à la croissance, l'accroissement de leurs avantages concurrentiels ainsi que l'évolution des rapports entre les Etats et les industries."

**WTO accessions and trade multilateralism : Case studies and lessons from the WTO at twenty**
Cambridge University Press, 1024 p., 2015
"In the age of globalization there is an increased need for a universal system of trade rules. Accession negotiations have been used by governments as an instrument for domestic reforms, and one lesson from the accession process is that there are contexts which lead multilateral trade negotiations to successful outcomes even in the complex and multi-polar 21st-century economic environment. The contributions in this volume illuminate the question regarding why some trade negotiations fail, some stall and others succeed."

**Interpreting WTO agreements: Problems and perspectives**
"The case law of the World Trade Organization is extensive, now running into some three hundred decided cases and thousands of pages. The interpretative process involved in this jurisprudence constitutes a form of legislative activity, and is therefore of great significance not only to the parties to disputes, but to the membership of the WTO. Qureshi identifies some of the underlying problems of interpreting WTO agreements, and examines the conditions for the interpretation of these agreements."

For more information please visit intranet pages on **International Trade**
Contact: Odile Maisse, Ext. 46201 / Nils Hammarlund, Ext. 42871, EP Research Service
### Coming soon

#### INTA/European Parliament:

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<td><strong>16 June 2016</strong></td>
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<td>- A new forward-looking and innovative future strategy on trade and investment</td>
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<td>- Implementation of the 2010 recommendations of Parliament on social and environmental standards, human rights and corporate responsibility</td>
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<td><strong>22 June 2016</strong></td>
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<td>- Oral question on US sanctions impacting EU business in Iran</td>
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<td><strong>July 2016</strong></td>
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#### INTA meeting dates

- 13-14 July 2016
- 31 August-1 September 2016

#### European Union

**Commission Work Program**

- [Key documents](#)

#### Trade negotiations

- **EU-China investment agreement - 11th round**
  - 27/06 - 01/07, Qingdao, China

- **TiSA (Trade in Services Agreement)**
  - 8 - 18/07, Geneva, Switzerland
  - 19 - 23/09, Geneva, Switzerland

- **TTIP: 14th round of negotiations**
  - 11 - 15/07, Brussels, Belgium

- [More information](#)

**EU Trade Council meetings**

- 20 June 2016
- 18 July 2016

#### International organisations

- **WTO**
  - [WTO calendar](#)

- **WCO**
  - [WCO calendar](#)

- **ILO**
  - [Meetings and events](#)

- **OECD**
  - [Upcoming events](#)

- **World Bank**
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### Various

#### VARIOUS

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<td><strong>List of INTA Members</strong>&lt;br/&gt;INTA Intranet &amp; e-Committee&lt;br/&gt;INTA Internet&lt;br/&gt;European Commission - Trade&lt;br/&gt;European Council&lt;br/&gt;Council of Ministers&lt;br/&gt;Dutch presidency&lt;br/&gt;Documents and publications&lt;br/&gt;Negotiating texts and trade agreements</td>
<td><strong>INTA tweets</strong>&lt;br/&gt;<strong>Tweets of INTA members</strong>&lt;br/&gt;<strong>Newshub</strong></td>
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