

60th Meeting of the Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue
European Parliament - United States Congress
Interparliamentary Meeting
London, 1-4 December 2005

Chairmens' Statement

Members of the European Parliament and the United States House of Representatives held the 60th interparliamentary meeting and Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue in London, 1-4 December, 2005.

Our sessions were marked by lively, constructive discussions on a wide range of political and economic issues.

The participants discussed recent constitutional developments in Europe, the situation in the Middle East and in the Balkans, cooperation in prevention and assistance in case of catastrophes, the fight against terrorism, preparations for the WTO Ministerial conference, the UNESCO cultural diversity convention, and internet governance, as well as the overall EU-US relationship and the initiatives taken in view of the implementation of the June 2005 Summit.

A special "TLD workshop" on relations with China took place with the participation of experts from academia and think-tanks.

The Delegations confirmed the "Chairmens' statement" adopted in Washington on 27 June 2005.

In addition, the participants noted the work plan agreed on at the recent, first informal United States-European Union ministerial meeting on economic affairs. The activities foreseen would help solve many of the problems which the US and EU legislators have discussed over the years. Accordingly, at their next meeting, in early 2006, the delegates will review progress on selected aspects of the work plan. The delegations also plan to bring the results of the review to bear on related parliamentary instruments and to present their points of view in time to be considered by the 2006 US-EU summit.

Both Delegations agreed that, given recent natural catastrophes, the toll of HIV-AIDS and other infectious diseases, and the danger of pandemic influenza, enhanced international cooperation, especially between the EU and the US, constituted clear priorities.

The participants expressed their best wishes to their colleague, Representative Jo Ann Davis, Chairman of the American delegation, who was necessarily absent, due to health considerations, from their dialogue.

Jonathan Evans, MEP
Chairman
European Parliament Delegation

Darrell Issa, MC
Acting Chairman
United States Delegation