

Question for written answer E-005751/2014
to the Commission
Rule 130
Constance Le Grip (PPE)

Subject: Publication of the Transatlantic Partnership negotiating mandate

1. Will the Commission take the decision to publish the negotiating mandate for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, which is currently still a restricted document?

Removing the secrecy surrounding this mandate would be extremely beneficial in view of the profound impression made by the revelations of NSA spying on EU citizens and the fact that a number of political parties have exploited this lack of transparency to fuel fears and spread lies.

Creating the largest trade area in the world understandably raises a lot of questions and concerns. EU manufacturers, farmers and the general public all need to be fully informed. It is therefore essential that they be made aware of the negotiating mandate.

2. Is the Commission planning to make official minutes available to the public after each round of negotiations?

Although the Commission has demonstrated, through the launch of a public consultation in March and the online publication of minutes from various meetings, that it is making genuine efforts to communicate, publishing the negotiating mandate and official minutes would prove that it is fully aware of the political and social significance of these negotiations and that it is serious about protecting EU citizens by ensuring that the negotiations are conducted in a spirit of trust, frankness and reciprocity.