

**Question for written answer E-002788/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Supposed convergence of European and US standards

As part of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), the European Union and the United States are supposed to make their rules in all sectors 'converge'.

However, the US today acts outside the framework of international law in the environmental, social and cultural domains and refuses to ratify core conventions on labour, the Kyoto Protocol on global warming, the Convention on Biodiversity, UNESCO conventions on cultural diversity, etc. In virtually all cases, its rules are less stringent than those in Europe.

Since we have no reason to believe that the United States plans to make its legislation more stringent and given that the stated objective of TTIP is maximum deregulation, convergence will have to take place through the alignment of European with US standards. As regards 'harmonisation', everything suggests that the US, which, unlike the EU, fiercely defends its interests, will seek to impose its own rules on 'partners' it tends to treat as inferiors, or even as vassals.

What measures does the Commission envisage to protect European producers and consumers from such a danger?