

**Question for written answer E-003465/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: TTIP and the problems faced by women in the US and, potentially, the EU

The TTIP negotiations have highlighted the worrying problems facing women in the US. Two particularly glaring examples are dealt with below.

Firstly, maternity leave is granted only subject to certain conditions and is unpaid, which makes it tantamount to social dumping. This will undoubtedly have a knock-on effect for women in Europe as companies seek to compete with their US counterparts, which will in turn do nothing to improve the treatment of US women.

Secondly, 47% of children in single-parent families depend on food stamps, an alarming statistic which emphasises the difficult nature of the life circumstances which women in the US, particularly mothers, face.

Free trade must not take precedence over efforts to improve the situation of women, including in the US.

1. How does the TTIP deal with the issues of social security for women and the protection of particularly vulnerable women?
2. What guarantees can the Commission give that women in the EU will not end up facing the same problems as their counterparts in the US?