

Question for written answer E-005183/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and competition law

With regard to competition law, practices differ between the USA and the EU. When competent, the American competition authorities (the FTC and FCC), do not apply the same standards (in advance or retrospectively) as their European counterparts, across a range of sectors.

With regard to trade the USA tends, more than the EU, to apply anti-dumping and countervailing measures. Furthermore, when complaints are filed, the investigative procedures are not the same. The USA applies 'preventive' measures before launching an investigation, unlike the European Commission, which sometimes reaches its conclusion after many months, when the damage has already been done.

In this context, the TTIP raises new issues.

As a 'new-generation' international agreement, the TTIP implies harmonisation of regulations.

1. What will be the consequences of the TTIP for competition law within the European Union?
2. Are we going to adopt the American approach, which seems more effective?