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on the role of the EU in promoting a broader Transatlantic Partnership
(2012/2287(INI))

Committee on Foreign Affairs

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MOTION FOR A EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION

on the role of the EU in promoting a broader Transatlantic Partnership (2012/2287(INI))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on transatlantic relations, in particular its resolution of 1 June 2006 on improving EU-US relations in the framework of a Transatlantic Partnership Agreement¹, its resolution of 26 March 2009 on the state of transatlantic relations in the aftermath of the US elections² and its resolution of 17 November 2011 on the EU-US Summit³,
- having regard to the outcomes of the EU-US Summit held on 28 November 2011 in Washington,
- having regard to the joint declarations by the 71st Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue (TLD) held in December 2011 in Jacksonville, the 72nd TLD held in June 2012 in Copenhagen and Strasbourg, and the 73rd TLD held in Washington in November 2012,
- having regard to its resolution of 23 October 2012 on trade and economic relations with the United States⁴, which supported the idea of launching the negotiations for a comprehensive economic agreement,
- having regard to the statement from US President Barack Obama, European Council President Herman Van Rompuy and European Commission President José Manuel Barroso of 13 February 2013 in which they announce that the United States and the European Union will each initiate the internal procedures necessary to launch negotiations on a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership,
- having regard to the Summit Declaration of the North Atlantic Council held in Chicago on 20 May 2012,
- having regard to its resolution of 12 September 2012 on the Annual Report from the Council to the European Parliament on the Common Foreign and Security Policy⁵, its resolution of 22 November 2012 on the implementation of the Common Security and Defence Policy⁶ and its resolution of 22 November 2012 on Cyber Security and Defence⁷,
- having regard to the joint statement issued by the European Union and the United States of America on the Asia-Pacific Region on 12 July 2012,
- having regard to the US Department of Defense document entitled "Sustaining US Global

¹ OJ C 298 E, 8.12.2006, p. 226.

² OJ C 117 E, 6.5.2010, p. 198.

³ Text adopted, P7_TA(2011)0510.

⁴ Text adopted, P7_TA(2012)0388.

⁵ Text adopted, P7_TA(2012)0334.

⁶ Text adopted, P7_TA(2012)0455.

⁷ Text adopted, P7_TA(2012)0457.

Leadership: Priorities for 21st century Defense" of January 2012, outlining the changes in US military strategy,

- having regard to US President Barak Obama's second Inaugural Address of 21 January 2013, the State of the Union Address of 12 February 2013 and the remarks by US Vice-President Joseph Biden to the Munich Security Conference of 2 February 2013,
 - having regard to the EU's strategic partnerships with Brazil (2007) and Mexico (2008), to the EU Association Agreements with Mexico, Chile and Central America, the Trade Agreements with Colombia and Peru, the ongoing negotiations with Canada on a Strategic Partnership Agreement and a Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement and the current negotiations with MERCOSUR,
 - having regard to its resolution of 12 June 2012 on defining a new development cooperation with Latin America¹, which underlines the support of the EU to the Latin-American regional integration process, as represented by CELAC, UNASUR, MERCOSUR, the Andean Community, SICA, CARICOM and the Pacific Alliance,
 - having regard to the regular summits that the EU and the US hold with Latin American countries, the biannual EU-CELAC Summit and the Summit of the Americas, both of which are envisaged for 2015,
 - having regard to the EU's relationship with African regional and sub-regional organisations of the Atlantic rim, in particular the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC),
 - having regard to the G20 Leaders' Declarations, the outcome document of the UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda ("Realizing the Future We Want for All") and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development ("The future we want"),
 - having regard to its resolutions on, *inter alia*, the Arab Spring, Mali, the Middle East, Syria, Iran, Afghanistan, the Eastern Partnership, Russia and China,
 - having regard to Rule 48 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the opinion of the Committee on Development (A7-0000/2013),
- A. whereas, in the whole Atlantic Basin, the most important political and economic relationship is that linking the EU and the US; whereas the beginning of a new term of the Obama presidency should serve to strengthen that relationship through an ambitious new agenda;
- B. whereas the transatlantic partnership is based on strong political links, shared values and common interests and goals;

¹ Texts adopted, P7_TA(2012)0235.

- C. whereas in a global, complex and increasingly multipolar world, the EU and the US, in spite of fiscal consolidation, should play key roles in the world's politics and economy and in the shaping of the international environment, and face together regional conflicts and global challenges on a multilateral basis; whereas, to that end, they should also secure the involvement of new key powers, including the EU's two Latin American strategic partners, Brazil and Mexico;
- D. whereas, in parallel to the shift in the global landscape triggered by the rise of the East, think-tanks, international organisations and some governments have recently been highlighting the growing importance of the Atlantic Basin as a whole, including its southern dimension, and the need for cooperation between the countries of which it is composed, so as to enable all of them to deal with problems that are common to the wider region;
- E. whereas Latin America is a region which shares with the EU and the US many values, interests, history and increasing economic ties; whereas Latin American countries have established a large number of regional or sub-regional organisations; whereas it is useful to study possible fields in which some sort of triangular cooperation could be developed; whereas that cooperation could be extended to include the African countries of the Atlantic Basin;
- F. whereas other players such as China are increasingly present in the Atlantic area;
- G. whereas, beyond the broader Atlantic perspective, there are other current issues and conflicts in respect of which coordinated action on the part of the EU and the US is essential;

Bilateral relations

1. Congratulates Barack Obama on his re-election as President of the United States of America; invites him to address the European Parliament at its plenary session in Strasbourg during his next visit to Europe;
2. Calls for an EU-US summit to be held as soon as possible to decide on a common agenda of short and long-term goals with regard to both bilateral matters and global and regional issues;
3. Welcomes the fact that the agenda will include the launching of negotiations for a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP); stresses that this agreement will reinvigorate the EU-US relationship and that its global impact will go beyond its bilateral implications;
4. Calls on the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission (HR/VP), the Council, the Commission and the EU Member States to enhance their coordination of EU policy vis-à-vis the US administration, in such a way as to allow the EU to be considered a coherent and efficient international player; highlights the importance of also strengthening the common security and defence policy, given the different crises that may arise in the EU's neighbouring regions and the US's "leading from behind" doctrine;

5. Recalls its suggestion that a Transatlantic Political Council (TPC) be created to serve as a body for systematic consultation and coordination on foreign and security policy, led by the HR/VP and the US Secretary of State;
6. Appreciates the contribution of the TLD to the strengthening of EU-US relations; welcomes the opening of the European Parliament Liaison Office in Washington and invites the US Congress to follow suit in Brussels;
7. Reiterates its determination to continue the fight against terrorism and organised crime and, at the same time, to respect and uphold human rights and fundamental liberties; welcomes the fact that the Passenger Name Records Agreement and the Terrorist Finance Tracking Programme Agreement (SWIFT Agreement), approved by the European Parliament, are already in force; urges the partners to promptly conclude the negotiations on the Data Protection Exchange Agreement; urges the Commission to resolve the issue of a visa requirement for the citizens of four EU Member States;
8. Welcomes the creation, at the 2010 Summit, of the Working Group on Cyber-Security and Cyber-Crime; believes that the EU and the US should give special priority to their cooperation on countering cyber attacks and cyber-crime;

Atlantic and global agenda

9. Calls on both partners to study fields and frameworks through which broader transatlantic cooperation could be carried out in a pragmatic way, and to explore with other Atlantic countries the usefulness of this extended cooperation; underlines that possible fields are economic issues, global governance, development cooperation, climate change, security and energy; calls on the partners to analyse the possibility of making use, for the purpose of these triangular dialogues, of the structures created in Latin America which the EU has traditionally encouraged;
10. Suggests that the partners engage in regular exchanges of views between themselves regarding their respective summits with Latin-American countries in a regional framework;
11. Highlights the fact that there already exist various multilateral frameworks devoted to specific matters which have a strong triangular component, such as the Central America Regional Security Initiative;
12. Calls on both partners to also study the possibility of broader cooperation that includes the African rim of the Atlantic Basin, as well as to identify pertinent fields and frameworks, taking into account the relevant African organisations;
13. Calls on the EU and the US to work in a coordinated manner with a view to ensuring a stable international order of peace and cooperation, based on effective multilateralism with emerging players, including those of the South Atlantic rim; urges the partners to continue working on the UN reform programme while engaging the other Atlantic countries;
14. Calls on the partners to give a new impetus to the G20, also by, at the same time, engaging

the other Atlantic powers participating in that forum;

15. Underlines that the eventual conclusion of the TTIP will create the prospect of a wide economic space that would include North America, the EU and many Latin American countries with which the partners have negotiated economic agreements;
16. Stresses that democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights must be a central feature of the Atlantic Basin countries;
17. Stresses the importance of coordination to combat the risks to global security, such as terrorism, failed states, trafficking of human beings, arms and drugs, organised crime and piracy, all of which constitute current threats in the Atlantic Basin; underlines the need to deepen comprehensive cooperation between the countries of the whole Atlantic Basin in the fight against drug trafficking, which is increasingly taking place throughout West Africa and the Sahel; welcomes the partners' support for the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan on Drugs;
18. Draws attention to the particularly important role that maritime security must play in the Atlantic space; welcomes the efforts made by the partners, in close coordination with ECOWAS and ECCAS, to fight piracy and promote maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea;
19. Highlights the importance of diversifying energy suppliers and transportation routes; stresses the growing relevance of the Atlantic Basin in energy production, which offers considerable diversification opportunities; suggests that the EU-US Energy Council, together with other countries of the Atlantic Basin, should study the possibility of working together on energy security and sustainability matters;
20. Welcomes the emphasis placed by President Obama in his inauguration speech on the renewal of the US capacity to manage crises abroad, and expects that the cooperation already engaged in by the EU and the US in crisis management, and increasingly in crisis prevention, in East Africa could be extended to the Atlantic rim;
21. Welcomes the fact that the partners have set up a reflection group to work on a post-2015 agenda concerning the Millennium Development Goals; urges the partners to closely coordinate with the countries in the Atlantic rim in relation to those goals, given their special importance for the latter group;
22. Welcomes President Obama's renewed commitment to the fight against climate change; urges the partners to agree, as early as possible, on binding commitments on the reduction of emissions; highlights the need to involve the Atlantic countries in this effort, especially because of the impact of climate change on food production, biodiversity and deforestation in Latin America and Atlantic Africa;
23. Calls on the EU and the US to adopt a common strategy in international fora, especially the UN, on the reduction of weapons of mass destruction and conventional arms and to involve the Atlantic countries in these endeavours; expects the US and Russia to make further progress on nuclear disarmament;

24. Encourages think-tanks and researchers to continue their study of broader transatlantic cooperation, which also helps to foster the idea of a wider Atlantic community;

Current issues and conflicts

25. Calls on the partners to closely coordinate in supporting the democratic transition in North Africa and the Middle East on the basis of a comprehensive and conditional strategy; urges the partners to maintain pressure on Russia and China in order to urgently reach a diplomatic solution to the tragic crisis in Syria;
26. Underlines the need for coordination between the EU, US, AU, ECOWAS, UN and other actors to support the implementation of the roadmap to transition in Mali and to provide the African-led International Support Mission to Mali with financial and logistical support;
27. Urges the US administration to make the stalling Middle East peace process a priority and to ensure that direct negotiations are resumed without delay; urges the two partners to continue with the double-track approach and to find, as a matter of urgency, a diplomatic solution to the Iranian nuclear programme issue;
28. Urges the partners to jointly develop a comprehensive approach to Afghanistan for the post-2014 period;
29. Highlights the importance of the Eastern Partnership to the EU; stresses the need to bring the countries of this neighbouring region closer to the EU and to the common values of the transatlantic partners;
30. Urges both partners to coordinate their policies towards a critical engagement with Russia; calls on the EU and the US to contribute to the process of Russian modernisation;
31. Notes the shift of international attention towards the East due to the political and economic growth of the Asia-Pacific region; welcomes the fact that closer consultation between the EU and the US on that region has recently been established;
32. Calls on the EU and the US to make a coordinated effort to commit the new Chinese leadership to dealing more actively with global agenda issues and conflicts; recalls the importance of sustaining an open dialogue on good governance and respect for human rights;

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33. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission.