



Newsletter of the European Parliament Committee on International Trade

Highlights

Exchange of views with EU Ambassador to the WTO, Angelos Pangratis

Ecuador to join the EU Free Trade Agreement with Peru/Colombia?

EU-Russia trade sanctions

Spotlight on the Economic Partnership Agreements

Next Meeting

Wednesday, 24 September 2014 (9.00-12.30)

Wednesday, 24 September 2014 (15.00-18.30)

Room Altiero Spinelli (3E-2)

Draft agenda

Webstreaming

Meeting documents

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Issues on upcoming meeting (24/09/2014)

Consent to Association Agreements with Georgia and Moldova

Consideration of draft opinions

INTA will hold a joint debate on its opinions for the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the consent recommendations and the accompanying resolutions concerning, respectively, the EU/Moldova Association Agreement and the EU/Georgia Association Agreement, which both comprise a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA). The Association Agreements were signed on 27 June 2014 and are being provisionally applied since 1 September. A DCFTA represents a core part of each agreement and one of the most ambitious free trade deals ever negotiated by the EU. It does not only provide for significant liberalisation of trade but also for a progressive dismantling of non-tariff barriers. Under the agreement, Moldova and Georgia will progressively reform their legislation and economies and adopt the EU rules and standards in the areas of public procurement, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, protections of intellectual property rights, investment protection and many others. Once fully implemented, the DCFTAs will lead to a genuine and comprehensive economic integration.



Association Agreement between the EU and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Georgia, of the other part

Rapporteur: [Olli Rehn](#) (ADLE)
Administrator: [Tatiana Mrazikova](#)
Procedure: [2014/0086\(NLE\)](#) - INTA/8/00388
Lead committee: AFET

TIMETABLE

Deadline for amendments: to be announced
Planned vote in INTA: 20 October
Planned vote in AFET: 17 November
Planned vote in plenary: November 2014

Conclusion of an Association agreement between the European Union, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part

Rapporteur: [Olli Rehn](#) (ADLE)
Administrator: [Tatiana Mrazikova](#)
Procedure: 2014/2816(INI) - INTA/8/01055
Lead committee: AFET

TIMETABLE

Deadline for amendments: to be announced
Planned vote in INTA: 20 October
Planned vote in AFET: 17 November
Planned vote in plenary: November 2014

Association Agreement between the EU and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part

Rapporteur: [Ionel-Sorin Moisă](#) (S&D)
Administrator: [Tatiana Mrazikova](#)
Procedure: [2014/0083\(NLE\)](#) - INTA/8/00391
Lead committee: AFET

TIMETABLE

Deadline for amendments: to be announced
Planned vote in INTA: 20 October
Planned vote in AFET: 20 October
Planned vote in plenary: November 2014

Conclusion of an Association agreement between the European Union, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part

Consideration of draft opinion

Rapporteur: [Ionel-Sorin Moisă](#) (S&D)
Administrator: [Tatiana Mrazikova](#)
Procedure: 2014/2817(INI) - INTA/8/01057
Lead committee: AFET

TIMETABLE

Deadline for amendments: to be announced
Planned vote in INTA: 20 October
Planned vote in AFET: 20 October
Planned vote in plenary: November 2014

Exchange of views with EU Ambassador to the WTO, Angelos Pangratis

Exchange of views



The World Trade Organisation (WTO) is currently at a critical juncture. On the one hand, for the first time in its almost 20-year history, the WTO succeeded in concluding a multilateral agreement at the ninth Ministerial Conference (MC9) in Indonesia in December 2013. However, over the summer the trade facilitation agreement which was the centrepiece of MC9 ran into some procedural difficulties. The other pressing priority is for the WTO to come up with a blueprint by the end of 2014 for the conclusion of the remainder of the Doha Development Agenda which was launched in 2001. The EU

Ambassador to the WTO, Angelos Pangratis, will come to INTA for an exchange of views on the current state of play and future prospects for the multilateral agenda.

Adapting Korea FTA to Croatian EU membership

Adoption of draft recommendation

The Free Trade Agreement between South Korea and the EU needs to be updated to take account of Croatia's accession to the Union. INTA will vote on the recommendation to give consent to the Additional Protocol to the EU-Korea FTA in order to take account of Croatia's accession to the EU (Rapporteur Jan Zahradil, ECR). No amendments were tabled to the Draft Recommendation in favour of giving consent.

Rapporteur: [Jan Zahradil](#) (ECR)
Administrator: [Heikki Suortti](#)
Procedure: [2014/0019](#)(NLE) - INTA/8/00366
Lead committee: INTA

TIMETABLE

Planned vote in INTA: 24 September
Planned vote in plenary: October 2014

Spotlight on the Economic Partnership Agreements

Exchange of views



After 12 long years of negotiations, this summer the EU has concluded talks on the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with West African and Southern African regional groupings. EPAs are WTO-compatible agreements aiming to boost development via regional integration and gradual trade liberalisation, with embedded flexibilities for developing partners. Trade MEPs will question the European Commission in charge of conducting trade negotiations both about the recently concluded deals and the prospects of finalising talks with the East African Community. Members will also discuss wider implications of partnerships with the African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) Group of States, integration within other EPA regions and implementation of existing EPAs and development-oriented trade agreements.

Next steps: preparation for signature and ratification of the finalised EPAs

EU-Russia trade sanctions

Exchange of views

INTA will hold an exchange of views focusing on the impact of mutual economic sanctions adopted by EU and Russia in the past months, on the EU market. A guest speaker, Mr. Michael Emerson from the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) as well as the representatives of the Commission's DG TRADE and DG AGRI, were invited to exchange views with INTA Members.

Following the conclusions of the special meeting of the European Council of 16 July 2014, the EU adopted financial and economic sanctions towards the Russian Federation. These measures restrict Russia's access to EU capital markets, provide for an arms embargo and an export prohibition in respect of dual use goods and certain energy-related equipment and technology.



On 6 August 2014 President Vladimir Putin signed a decree banning or limiting for a period of one year the import to Russia of products from countries, which have adopted sanctions against Russia. The Order introduces for the period of one year a ban or restrictions on foreign economic operations involving the import to Russia of particular agricultural produce, raw materials and foodstuffs originating in countries that have decided to impose economic sanctions on Russian legal entities and/or physical individuals, or have joined such decisions. Products affected are meat and meat products (beef, pork, poultry), dairy products, fruit and vegetables, fish and crustaceans. Banned products represent the value of 5.1 billion EUR, i.e. 43% of EU agricultural exports to Russia in 2013 and about 4% of the EU total export to Russia.

Due to the continuous involvement of Russia in the destabilization of the south-eastern Ukraine, further EU economic sanctions entered into force on 12 September.

Ecuador to join the EU Free Trade Agreement with Peru/Colombia?

Exchange of views

On 17 July 2014 the European Commission reached a political agreement with Ecuador on Ecuador joining the Free Trade Agreement with Peru and Colombia. Before this trade agreement can enter into force - following the conclusion of all the technical work on it - the European Parliament based on a draft recommendation by the Committee on International Trade will have to give its consent (or not) to the agreement.

The Commission has been invited to brief INTA Members on the outcome of the negotiations and the next steps ahead leading to the ratification of the agreement. While the normative part of the agreement only contains minor adaptations, the market access offers for goods, agricultural goods, services and public procurement are specific to each of the three countries being (or wanting to be) part of the multi-party trade agreement. Furthermore, it needs to be kept in mind that unilateral trade references granted by the EU to Ecuador under GSP+ scheme will expire at the end of 2014 given the level of per capita income reached by Ecuador.



Recent events

New US ambassador to the EU defends US positions on TTIP

Exchange of views with US Ambassador to the EU, Anthony Gardner (03/09/2014)



In his first exchange of views with the INTA Committee and addressing the Committee in various languages, Ambassador Anthony Gardner, the US ambassador to the European Union, stressed that he was keen to continue the dialogue with the European Parliament started by his predecessor.

In his speech, he fought back against some popular TTIP myths and asserted that recent events in Ukraine and the continued sluggish recovery in Europe simply underline the need for a deeper transatlantic partnership, and specifically a successful and comprehensive TTIP agreement. Gardner warned that a failed TTIP agreement will allow the international economic agenda to be set by other countries that may not necessarily share transatlantic values. He spoke out against an interim agreement (that had been suggested by Italian Presidency earlier the same day in INTA), promoting instead a pragmatic approach that would allow reaching a comprehensive and ambitious results possibly still by the end of 2015. He reminded that talks are still in preparatory stages and suggested therefore that the critics should not make ungrounded presumptions but focus on facts and actual texts.

During the debate Members raised a variety of questions regarding, for instance, Investor-to-State-Dispute settlement, the prospects of the US administration to obtain Trade Promotion Authority (so

called "fast track") as well as efforts by the US administration to reach agreement with the EU on implementing the recommendations to strengthen the safe harbour provisions. In this context, the Ambassador expressed confidence that Congress would support the Privacy Bill giving EU citizens the same protection as US citizens.

Commission briefs Trade MEPs on Environmental Goods Agreement, EGA (03/09/2014)



Exchange of views with the Commission on ongoing negotiations for prospective Environmental Goods Agreement highlighted a generally positive approach to the initiative by the Members, but also their concerns related mostly to defining an environmental good.

The Commission expressed its commitment to achieving a global agreement, benefiting trade, environment, tackling climate change and encouraging innovation. They confirmed that initial focus in the negotiations will be on elimination of tariffs on environmental goods and at a later stage also on non-tariff barriers and environmental services, as the services represent 65% (to 35% goods') market share, while the EU is the lead provider in both.

Potential benefits as listed by the Commission include boosting trade in environmental goods and services; helping green industry (4 mil. jobs in EU); helping the EU to reach its ambitious climate and energy targets; cheap access to technologies both in the EU and in developing countries; contributing to security of energy supply and reducing dependency on fossil fuels (the EGA initiative forms also part of President Obama's climate action plan) and strengthening the WTO post-Bali, as well as advancing DDA mandate.

INTA Members were overall hopeful, that the negotiations can bring a meaningful, multilateral agreement, helping both trade and environment, though they expressed their doubts regarding the environmental good definition, and the need for the list of products to be flexible and correct. There was a reservation expressed against "green-washed" products and need to address the situation of developing countries, also vis-à-vis public services, such as wastewater management. Current disputes with China regarding allegedly unfair practices in this sector, as well as issues of subsidies for fossil fuels and concerns about dumping of low-quality products on the EU market were raised.

The Members heard the Commission clarify that in defining the environmental good, the focus will be on subset of goods, the use of which contributes to improving environmental protection or tackling climate change.

Similarly, regarding description of an environmental service, there are traditionally environmental services (some of them dealt with under TiSA negotiations, such as wastewater management) and environmental services linked to a certain good, auxiliary services.

The Commission also confirmed that there is a hope to multilateralise, by bringing in a "critical mass" of WTO members, and then the eventual benefits of the agreement could be extended under the MFN principle to all the WTO members.

Next steps: 2nd round 22-26 Sept in Geneva. Report on the outcome of the public consultation (5 June-31 July) by the Commission is to be published. A Sustainability Impact Assessment is to be launched by DG TRADE for this major trade initiative.

Italian Presidency presents its international trade priorities to INTA (03/09/2014)

The Italian Vice-Minister for Trade presented the Council Presidency priorities, focusing on CETA, TTIP, Japan, ASEAN, China, Gulf, EuroMed, Eastern Partnership negotiations and the WTO (including ITA and green goods negotiations) as priority areas. He expressed his satisfaction with the finalisations of the CETA negotiations and stated that they would not support reopening of talks on any chapter. On TTIP he called for more transparency (through declassification of EU's negotiating mandate and the publication of summary reports) and also suggested that concrete results are quickly possible even in an interim agreement in 2015 to secure progress.



The Minister insisted that progress on the multilateral agenda must not be frozen and expressed his disappointment about the fact that the 31 July deadline on the Trade Facilitation Agreement was missed. He said Bali was undermined by the behaviour of certain WTO members and that all should be done to get the process moving again. Nonetheless, he proposed to only restart the rest of the Doha Development Agenda once a solution is found on Trade Facilitation. He expressed the hope that the Information Technology Agreement and the Green goods plurilaterals could inject some dynamism into the WTO. Members expressed the view that there was a role for the Presidency in terms of engaging in public diplomacy with a view to promoting the multilateral agenda.

On the legislative front, he highlighted trade defence and public procurement as priorities, followed by conflict minerals and trade in goods that could be used for torture. On TDI he called on the Commission to wait with adopting the guidelines until the new legislation has been adopted.

Members raised issues regarding the slowness of the Council in the legislative process, ISDS in the investment agreements, the TDI guidelines, IT exports and human rights,

Adopted in previous INTA meeting (03/09/2014)

- [General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2015 - all sections](#)

Rapporteur: Reimer Böge (PPE)

Vote on draft opinion:

in favour	against	abstentions
31	2	4

Trade issues recently debated in plenary:

- 15 September: [Impact on European agriculture of the trade ban on agricultural products and foodstuffs from the EU, imposed by the Russian Federation](#)
Oral question from Committee on Agriculture (followed by debate)
- 15 September: [Trade with Euromed countries](#)
Commission statement (followed by debate)
- 15 September: [GSP+ \(Generalised Scheme of Preferences\) and compliance with the Minimum Age Convention: case of Bolivia](#)
Oral question by EPP followed (by debate)
- 16 September: [EU-Canada free trade agreement \(CETA\)](#)
Commission statement (followed by debate)

Recently adopted in plenary:

- 16 September: Consent to [EU-Ukraine association agreement](#)

Chair's activities last month

- ✓ **28 August:** Meeting with US Ambassador Anthony Gardner on transatlantic relations, especially TTIP
- ✓ **28 August:** participation in an extraordinary enlarged bureau meeting of AFET on the Ukraine crisis and Russian measures
- ✓ **2 September:** "Chairing a session entitled "Toward an EU economic, political and security strategy in Asia-Pacific region and Transatlantic relations" during the conference of EU heads of delegation
- ✓ **03 September:** Meeting with Italian vice minister for trade Carlo Calenda on Italian presidency priorities

Selected trade news

INTA Press Releases

[European Parliament ratifies EU-Ukraine Association Agreement](#) (16/09/2014)

The European Parliament gave its consent to the EU-Ukraine Association agreement, which includes a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA), on Tuesday in Strasbourg. At the same time, the Ukrainian Parliament in Kiev also ratified the Agreement. The deal will establish a deep political association and economic integration between the EU and Ukraine and provide for mutual free market access.

[MEPs evaluate EU policy towards Russia](#) (16-09-2014)

The EU should take a more proactive line on the conflict between Ukraine and Russia and impose tougher sanctions on Russia, urged some political groups in Tuesday's debate with EU Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Commissioner Štefan Füle. Others, however, stressed the need to "keep communication channels open".

Economic recovery to remain fragile, say forecasts

Latest reports issued by the OECD, UNCTAD and EBRD demonstrate that prospects of global and European economic growth remain dim.

The world economy has not found a sustainable growth path after facing the global economic and financial crisis, the UN Conference on Trade and Development (**UNCTAD**) says in its [Trade and Development Report 2014](#). As international trade remains lacklustre due to insufficient global demand, trade alone can be unable to kick-start economic growth. Facilitating trade flows by modernizing customs procedures will be beneficial in the longer term, but current constraints would need robust domestic-demand-led output recovery. The report emphasizes the role that proactive trade and industrial policies can play in the post-2015 development agenda. It argues that negotiations on the rule making need to refocus on multilateral agreements which recognize the legitimate concerns of developing countries.

[The interim Economic Assessment](#) published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (**OECD**) underlines that the global economy is continuing to expand at a moderate and uneven pace. Moderate and bumpy global growth has been reflected in sluggish trade growth and a slow pace of improvement in labour markets. Lower barriers to trade and reduced administrative burden would be important for emerging economies, while liberalisation of services should be a priority for advanced economies, suggests the report.

[Regional Economic Prospects](#) by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) state that continuing crisis between Russia and Ukraine is taking its toll weighing on the economies of the EBRD region, with a modest recovery expected in 2015 after a sharp slowdown in growth this year. Furthermore, the volatile security situation makes the forecasts exceptionally uncertain, while higher military spending in the transition region over the medium term could erode post-Cold war "peace dividend".

Delayed application of trade part of EU-Ukraine Association Agreement

In a trilateral meeting held on 12 September, the EU Trade Commissioner Karel De Gucht, Russia's Minister for Economic Development Alexei Ulyukayev and Ukraine's Minister for Foreign Affairs Pavlo Klimkin agreed to delay the application of the trade part of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement, until the end of 2015. It was also announced that the Commission will propose a prolongation of the Autonomous trade preferences to Ukraine for the same period. Such a prolongation will need to be endorsed by the European Parliament and the Council under the ordinary legislative procedure.

On 12 September, a new set of EU restrictive economic measures against Russia came into force, targeting Russia's access to the EU capital markets, certain services necessary for deep water oil exploration and production and further restricting exports of dual use items.

WTO negotiations – way forward is still far from clear

At the ninth Ministerial WTO Conference (MC9), the 159 members of the WTO succeeded in reaching a multilateral deal on the question of trade facilitation (streamlining customs procedures thereby reducing costs and delays in international trade) as well as a range of other decisions. However the deal on trade facilitation started to come undone over the summer months when it became clear that there wasn't unanimous support on moving forward on it. WTO members were linking it to the question of food security, which is where governments buy stock from farmers and store it to be released if necessary in times of shortages. At MC9, it was decided that countries that undertake food security programmes would be protected from legal challenges to those programmes for a four year period, known informally as a "peace clause", during which time a permanent solution would have to be found. Some countries, notably India, are however seeking more concrete commitments on a possible solution on food security before being able to follow through on the trade facilitation, for which the first deadline of 31st July has been missed. Intense discussions have been taking place within the WTO with a view to overcoming the impasse with the Director General on 15 September warning that we are in a ["precarious position"](#). Members of INTA will be in Geneva in October for [the WTO Public Forum](#) and will be presenting a panel debate on the role of parliamentarians in the process.

EUROMED – renewed focus on the region

For the first time in four years, there will be a Trade Ministerial with the countries of the [Union for the Mediterranean](#) taking place in Brussels on 30th September. INTA members and other MEPs recently held a debate in plenary on trade with the Euromed countries calling for the EU to actively support these countries and highlighting trade as a means of promoting growth and employment, whilst nonetheless focusing also on promoting environmental, labour and human rights issues. The EU is currently negotiating a trade agreement with Morocco, which the Parliament has been following closely and plans to launch negotiations in the near future with both Tunisia and Jordan.

STATE-OF-PLAY OF THE UNION'S TRADE DEFENCE INSTRUMENTS (TDI)

The Commission adopts price revision mechanism in the Solar Panels Undertaking

In connection to the imposition of anti-dumping duties on imports of photovoltaic modules and components the Commission accepted a price undertaking from a group of exporting producers in the PR China with regard to the provisional anti-dumping duty. Union producers contested the mechanism by saying that acceptance of the proposed clarification of the implementation of the undertaking would lead to a downward spiral of the Minimum Import Price (MIP), and that the adapted MIP does not remove injury caused to the Union industry. The Commission underlined that the conversion of the reference international prices into euro was part of the common understanding of the parties to the undertaking and that the conversion of these international price series into euro is necessary since MIP is expressed in euro. Consequently, also basing its view of the concerns voiced by the third parties in the course of implementation of the undertaking, the Commission accepted the proposal for clarifications concerning the MIP revision mechanism.

Ongoing investigations

On 31 July 2014, there were 85 anti-dumping and 13 countervailing measures in force. Furthermore, there were undertakings in force from 5 countries covering 6 products. At the end of July, 36 investigations were ongoing.

13 investigations were initiated, out of which 4 new investigations, 5 expiry reviews, 2 interim reviews, 2 new exporter reviews. 2 definitive measures were imposed (of which 1 anti-subsidy), involving imports from 1 country and covering 1 product.

New investigations until 31 August 2014

- Rainbow trout originating in Turkey L 44, 15.02.2014, p. 18, (AD and AS)
- Stainless steel cold-rolled flat products originating in China and P.R. China Taiwan C 196, 26.06.2014, p. 9, (AD)
- Stainless steel cold-rolled flat products originating in the People's Republic of China C 267, 14.08.2014, p. 17 (AS)

[More background](#)

RECENT WTO DISPUTE SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENTS

EU requests WTO panel on Russian antidumping measures on Light Commercial Vehicles (16 Sept)

The EU is concerned by the use of trade defence instruments as protectionist measures, without a proper justification. In line with the EU's general policy to request WTO dispute settlement to address technical shortcomings of trade defence measures taken by another WTO Member, the EU has moved to the next step in this dispute. The EU believes the anti-dumping duties are incompatible with WTO law, both on procedural and on substantive grounds. WTO consultations, which took place on 18 June this year in Geneva, could not remove EU's concerns. The duties of 23% to 29.6% imposed on European LCVs are significantly hampering access to the Russian market.

The EU's request for the establishment of a WTO panel will be discussed for the first time at the meeting of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) of 26 September 2014. At that meeting Russia can,

under the dispute settlement rules of the WTO, object to the establishment of the panel. If the EU tables the issue again at the following DSB meeting, Russia will be unable to block the request and, consequently, the panel would be established.

WTO Appellate Body ruled against Chinese access restrictions to rare earths and other raw materials

The Appellate Body of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) ruled in August in the EU's favour confirming the findings made by a Panel in March 2014 that China's export restrictions on rare earth, as well as tungsten and molybdenum, are in breach of WTO rules. Backing the claims of the EU and its co-complainants, the US and Japan, the WTO found that China's export duties and quotas were not justified for reasons of environmental protection or conservation policy. In 2012, China lost another WTO case, brought jointly by the EU, US and Mexico, on export restrictions on raw materials. It subsequently lifted those restrictions. However, it did not lift similar measures, export quotas and duties, applying to other raw materials, such as tungsten, molybdenum and rare earths. The EU and its co-complainants were therefore left with no option but to use the WTO's dispute settlement mechanism again. China has argued that its export restrictions on rare earths are part of its conservation policy. But the WTO's position was clear: export restrictions cannot be imposed to conserve exhaustible natural resources if the domestic production or consumption of the same raw materials is not restricted at the same time for the same purpose.

Other cases

- In DS 426, the RPT expired on 5 June and Canada stated its view that the Ontario measures that are the object of the dispute have been brought in compliance with the DSB recommendations and rulings.
- In DS 476, Russian Federation - certain measures relating to the energy sector (3rd energy package, renewable energy directive) consultations took place on 23-24 June 2014.
- In DS 474, European Union – Cost Adjustment Methodologies and Certain Anti-dumping Measures on Imports from Russia, Russia requested the establishment of a panel on 4 June 2014.
- In DS 479, Russia — Anti-Dumping Duties on Light Commercial Vehicles from Germany and Italy, consultations with Russia were held on 18 June 2014.

Recent publications

Upcoming publications from DG EXPO Policy Department

- Note comparing draft investment protection provisions (i.e. CETA, Singapore, TTIP) negotiated by the Commission
- In-depth analysis, 'TTIP - Criticism and reactions of the civil society and EU Member States'
- In-depth analysis, 'TTIP - Impact on EU Member states and our main trading partners'
- In-depth analysis, Trade and economic relations with Japan
- New IPR and international trade communication
- Conflict Minerals
- Canada CETA
- Supporting European SMEs going abroad (update on European Business Centres in Asia and new initiatives by the Commission)

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/studies.html#studies>

Recent briefings by the EP research service

Parliamentary hearings of the Commissioners-designate: A decisive step in the investiture process

Eva-Maria Poptcheva, EPRS Briefing, September 2014, 4 p.

"The hearings of the Commissioners-designate before the European Parliament's committees are a necessary ingredient in informing Parliament's decision to give its consent to, or reject, the proposed College"

Workers' conditions in the textile and clothing sector: just an Asian affair? Issues at stake after the Rana Plaza tragedy

D'Ambrogio, Enrico, EPRS Briefing, August 2014, 10 p.

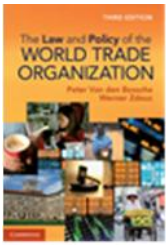
"More than 70% of EU imports of textile and clothing come from Asia. Many Asian workers have to work in sweatshop conditions, but the issue appears in global media only when major fatal accidents occur, like that at Rana Plaza in Bangladesh, in 2013. Long working hours, low wages, lack of regular contracts, and systemically hazardous conditions are often reported. Trade unions, when allowed, are unable to protect workers"

The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative: state of play

Grieger, Gisela, EPRS Briefing, 24 June 2014, 10 p.,

"In 2003, the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) was launched as a voluntary multi-stakeholder initiative for the extractive industries, bringing together governments, industry and civil society. Its main objective has been to create a global transparency standard which allows light to be shed on all payments made by extractive-industry companies to governments of resource-rich developing countries, and to cross-check all revenues received by these governments from the industry."

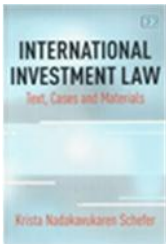
New books in the library reading room collection (available for loan)



[The law and policy of the World Trade Organization : text, cases, and materials](#)

Peter van den Bossche, Werner Zdouc. Cambridge University Press, 2013, 1045 p.

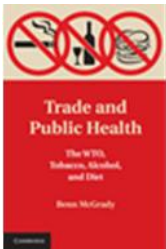
"Since its first edition, this textbook has been the first choice of teachers and students alike, due to its clear introduction to the basic principles of the multilateral trading system and its detailed examination of the law of the WTO. The third edition continues to explore the institutional and substantive law of the WTO. Material has been restructured to closely align with teaching approaches making it even more user-friendly. It has been updated to incorporate all new developments in the WTO's body of case law."



[International investment law : text, cases and materials](#)

Krista Nadakavukaren Schefer, Edward Elgar, 2013, xxv-554 p.

"This textbook is a complete introduction to the law of international investment protection. With chapters on the sources of investment law, expropriation, treaty-based principles of protection, dispute settlement, and investment insurance, the text offers instructors a tool to use in its entirety or selectively, on its own or combined with other materials."



[Trade and Public Health: The WTO, Tobacco, Alcohol, and Diet \[e-book\]](#)

Cambridge University Press, 2011, 341 p.

"This book examines the extent to which the law of the World Trade Organization restricts domestic implementation of these types of measures. The relationship between international health instruments and the WTO Agreement is examined, as are the WTO covered agreements themselves."

For more information please visit our [intranet pages](#) of the EPRS on International Trade, Contact - Nils Hammarlund, Ext. 42871 / Odile Maisse, Ext. 46201, EP Research Service

Coming soon

INTA/European Parliament:		
<p>Trade files planned in plenary:</p> <p>December 2014:</p> <p>Conclusion of an agreement on the participation of the Republic of Croatia in the European Economic Area and the three related agreements</p>	<p>INTA meeting dates</p> <p>06-07/10 20/10 (tbc) 29/10 (hearing with candidate Commissioner)</p>	<p>Amendment deadlines:</p> <p>Association Agreement between the EU and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part (rapporteur Olli Rehn)</p> <p>Conclusion of an Association agreement between the European Union, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part (rapporteur Olli Rehn)</p> <p>Association Agreement between the EU and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part (rapporteur Ionel-Sorin Moisă)</p> <p>Conclusion of an Association agreement between the European Union, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part (rapporteur Ionel-Sorin Moisă)</p> <p><i>The deadline for amendments will be announced in INTA during this week</i></p>
<p>Votes:</p> <p>24.09:</p> <p>Protocol to the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Korea, of the other part, to take account of the accession of Croatia to the European Union (rapporteur Jan Zahradil).</p>	<p>INTA Delegations</p> <p>The 2014 WTO Public Forum will take place from 1 to 3 October in Geneva, at the WTO headquarters. The title is "Why trade matters to everyone".</p>	<p>Delegation to the CARIFORUM - EU Parliamentary Committee</p> <p>Constitutive meeting, Brussels - to be confirmed</p>

European Union	World Trade Organisation
<p>Commission Work Program http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/key-documents/index_en.htm</p> <p>Trade negotiations Free trade agreements: tentative dates of upcoming negotiation rounds All dates are indicative and subject to possible changes and postponement.</p> <p>TTIP negotiations 7th round, 29 September - 3 October, Washington DC, United States</p> <p>TISA - Trade in Services Agreement 21-25 September, Geneva, Switzerland - to be confirmed 17 – 21 November, Geneva, Switzerland - to be confirmed</p> <p>Vietnam: 9th round, 22 – 26 September, Brussels, Belgium</p> <p>China 13 – 17 October, Brussels, Belgium - to be confirmed</p> <p>Japan 7th round, 20 – 24 October, Brussels, Belgium - to be confirmed</p> <p>More info</p> <p>EU Trade Council meetings 15 October: Informal Trade Council, Rome</p> <p>21 November: Formal Trade Council, Brussels</p>	<p>WTO Events calendar 2014</p> <p>24-26 September: Trade Policy Review: Mongolia</p> <p>26 September: Dispute Settlement Body</p> <p>1-3 October: WTO Public Forum 2014: “Why trade matters to everyone”</p> <p>1-3 October: Trade Policy Review: Sierra Leone</p> <p>21 October: General Council</p> <p>22-24 October: Trade Policy Review: Mauritius and Djibouti</p> <p>23 October: Dispute Settlement Body</p>

Various

VARIOUS			
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