



Newsletter of the European Parliament Committee on International Trade

This issue's highlights

- Welcome message of the Chair***
- The new INTA Committee***
- Exchange of views with Commissioner Karel De Gucht***

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WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Dear INTA members, Members of the European Parliament, dear reader,

I would like to warmly welcome all of you to the new legislative term. I would also like to thank the INTA committee members once again for entrusting me with the chairmanship of the committee for international trade.

With important trade deals and legislative files in the pipeline, the work of this committee promises to keep everyone interested in EU trade policy very busy.

Agreements such as TTIP, CETA and TiSA have brought the attention of the public to focus on European trade policy and underlined its importance for the people of Europe. At the same time, concerns have been raised that we must and will take very seriously. The European Parliament will stand at the forefront of those who protect the rights and interests of citizens from Europe and beyond.

I believe that INTA and the European Parliament as a whole must make full use of its powers and take into account its responsibility to ensure that trade is not only free, but fair for all involved. To me, this means much more than simply cutting tariffs: It also includes strengthening labour rights and consumer protection, as well as achieving sustainability goals and protecting the environment for the benefit of the people in Europe and in our partner countries.

This will not only require working constructively with one another within the committee, but also cooperating closely with other institutions involved in setting and implementing EU trade policy.

Lastly, let me encourage everyone, Parliamentarians, representatives of civil society organisations, trade unions, business associations and EU institutions alike to participate in the public debate on trade policy. A pluralistic debate is needed to ensure that our policies benefit the EU as a whole.

Yours truly,

Bernd Lange

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The new INTA Bureau from left to right: 3rd Vice Chair Iuliu Winkler (EPP) 1st Vice Chair Tokia Saïfi (EPP), Chair Bernd Lange (S&D), 4th Vice-Chair Jan Zahradil (ECR) and 2nd Vice-Chair Yannick Jadot (Greens/EFA)

1. Constituent meeting

Composition

On 7 July the Committee on International Trade (INTA) held its constituent meeting, electing by acclamation Bernd Lange as its new Chair. The Committee has also elected its vice-chairs: 1st Vice-Chair Tokia Saïfi (EPP), 2nd Vice-Chair Yannick Jadot (Greens), 3rd Vice-Chair Iuliu Winkler (EPP) and 4th Vice-Chair Jan Zahradil (ECR). Together, the chair and vice-chairs make up the Bureau of the Committee, elected for a two-and-a-half year term.

The Committee now is composed of 41 full and 41 substitute members (up from 31 members during the previous 2.5 years). The political composition is as follows.

Group of the European People's Party (EPP)	12
Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament (S&D)	10
European Conservatives and Reformists Group (ECR)	4
Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)	4
Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left (GUE/NGL)	3
Europe of freedom and direct democracy Group (EFDD)	3
The Greens/European Free Alliance (Greens/EFA)	2
Non-attached Members (NI)	3

The political groups have also appointed their new INTA Coordinators: Daniel Caspary (EPP), David Martin (S&D), Emma McClarkin (ECR), Marietje Schaake (ALDE), Helmut Scholz (GUE), William Earl of Dartmouth (EFDD) and Yannick Jadot (Greens).

At the beginning of the first INTA meeting on 22 July, the Coordinators will meet to agree the working methods of INTA during the new parliamentary term.

The 7 July INTA meeting also confirmed the **INTA calendar** for the remainder of 2014.

WEEK	WEEKDAY	DAY & MONTH	TIME	PLACE
30	Tuesday	22 July 2014	15.00 - 18.30	Brussels
36	Wednesday	3 September 2014	09.00 - 12.30	Brussels
	Wednesday	3 September 2014	15.00 - 18.30	
39	Wednesday	24 September 2014	09.00 - 12.30	Brussels
	Wednesday	24 September 2014	15.00 - 18.30	
41	Monday	6 October 2014	15.00 - 18.30	Brussels
	Tuesday	7 October 2014	09.00 - 12.30	
	Tuesday	7 October 2014	15.00 - 18.30	
45	Wednesday	05 November 2014	09.00 - 12.30	Brussels
	Wednesday	05 November 2014	15.00 - 18.30	
	Thursday	06 November 2014	09.00 - 12.30	
49	Wednesday	03 December 2014	09.00 - 12.30	Brussels
	Wednesday	03 December 2014	15.00 - 18.30	
	Thursday	04 December 2014	09.00 - 12.30	

Responsibilities of INTA

Committee responsible for matters relating to the establishment, implementation and monitoring of the Union's common commercial policy and its external economic relations, in particular:

1. financial, economic and trade relations with third countries and regional organisations;
2. the common external tariff and trade facilitation as well as the external aspects of customs provisions and management;
3. the opening, monitoring, conclusion and follow-up of bilateral, multilateral and plurilateral trade agreements governing economic, trade and investment relations with third countries and regional organisations;
4. measures of technical harmonisation or standardisation in fields covered by instruments of international law;
5. relations with the relevant international organisations and international fora on trade-related matters, and with organisations promoting regional economic and commercial integration outside the Union;
6. relations with the WTO, including its parliamentary dimension.
7. The committee liaises with the relevant interparliamentary and ad hoc delegations for the economic and trade aspects of relations with third countries.

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The next meeting of the Committee on International Trade is scheduled on Tuesday 22, July 2014, 15.00-16.30 in Brussels. The meeting will be [webstreamed](#), except for the in camera items.

1. General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2015 - all sections

Consideration of draft opinion

INTA will discuss its opinion on the Union's Budget 2015. The discussion will be based on the guidelines on the 2015 budget which the previous INTA committee transmitted to the budget committee in April.

The guidelines recommended that the budget for next year should reflect the fast expansion of the EU's agenda of bilateral trade negotiations (US, Japan, China, ASEAN countries, ACP countries, Mercosur, etc.) and that the budget for trade activities must therefore be shored up in order to ensure that the EU is in a full capacity to negotiate for the EU's interests while keeping up our engagement on all other multilateral, plurilateral and bilateral fronts.

Moreover, INTA then also emphasised the European Neighbourhood Policy should have sufficient budgetary allocation to provide adequate trade-related technical support and assistance to our close partners, and that the instrument for Macro-Financial Assistance has also to be defended.

When promoting the internationalisation and competitiveness of EU SMEs, INTA said it would like the Commission to improve the existing tools in that area. Finally, INTA believed that extra efforts by the Commission are required in the area of monitoring the implementation and the effects of trade agreements negotiated by the EU.

The Committee concluded that the EU would gain by allocating resources to check compliance by third countries with their commitments towards the EU.

2. Exchange of views with Karel de Gucht, Commissioner for Trade, on the state of play of EU Trade Policy

Exchange of views

During the regular exchange of views with INTA, Commissioner for Trade Karel De Gucht will give an overview on the state of play of EU trade policy and outline most important legislative files and ongoing negotiations for the coming months. Members will be able to raise any issue with the Commissioner during the question and answer session afterwards.

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multilaterals & bilaterals

State-of-play of ongoing negotiations

Free trade agreements: tentative dates of upcoming negotiation rounds

All dates are indicative and subject to possible changes and postponement.

EU-US TTIP negotiations - 6th round	14-18 July, 2014
TiSA	15 - 19 September, 2014 - to be confirmed
EU-Vietnam FTA negotiations - 10th round	22 - 26 September, 2014 - to be confirmed
EU-China Investment Agreement negotiations	13 - 17 October, 2014 - to be confirmed
EU-Japan FTA negotiations - 7th round	20 -24 October, 2014 - to be confirmed

Source: DG TRADE, European Commission, more [info](#)

trade news and studies

Pending briefing notes & studies by the Policy department

- Internal briefing note on the Role of the EP in the definition of EU trade policy after entry into force of the Lisbon treaty
- Internal briefing note comparing draft investment protection provisions (i.e. CETA, Singapore, TTIP) negotiated by the Commission
- External study on the cross-cutting and cumulative effects of EU FTAs
- Internal briefing study on the In-depth analysis, 'TTIP - Criticism and reactions of the civil society and EU Member States'
- Internal briefing study on the In-depth analysis, 'TTIP - Impact on EU Member states and our main trading partners'
- Internal briefing study on the In-depth analysis, 'Update of TTIP negotiations'
- Internal briefing study on the In-depth analysis, 'Positions and concerns of the US Congress'

Briefings by the EP Research Service

[Towards an EU-US trade and investment deal](#)

Cristina Cirlig, At a glance, EPRS, 11 July 2014, 2 p.,

"The EU and US are currently negotiating a trade and investment deal, which would create the world's largest free trade area. But the many challenges faced and increasing public opposition put successful conclusion of an agreement in doubt."

[Overcoming Transatlantic differences on intellectual property: IPR and the TTIP negotiations](#)

Cristina Cirlig, In-Depth Analysis, EPRS, July 2014, 36 p.,

"Recent studies demonstrate the important contribution of intellectual property rights (IPR) to the American and EU economies. Royalties and licence fees based on IPR figure high among the exports of both, and applications, and grants, for IPR protection made by Europeans in the US and vice-versa represent an important share of the totals. The differences between the respective IPR systems are comparatively small, yet seen as hard to overcome."

[Chinese investment in the EU](#)

Laine Skoba, Briefing, EPRS, 23 May 2014, 6 p.,

"From ports to cars to food processing, China's foreign direct investment (FDI) in the EU concerns a wide variety of economy sectors. Negotiations on an EU-China bilateral investment treaty were launched in 2013, to ensure more reciprocity in business relationships."

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

[Datenschutz und transatlantische Freihandelszone](#)

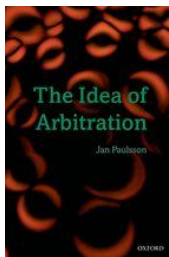
Alexander Dix, KIT Scientific Publishing, 2013, 31 p.,



"Die Verhandlungen über eine transatlantische Freihandelszone geben Anlass, die Gemeinsamkeiten und Unterschiede im Bereich des Datenschutzes zwischen Europa und den USA zu beleuchten. Während die USA das Sammeln von Daten als unproblematisch und erst deren Nutzung als regelungsbedürftig ansehen, ist in Europa schon die Datenerhebung ein rechtfertigungsbedürftiger Eingriff in Rechte des Betroffenen."

[The idea of arbitration](#)

Jan Paulsson. - Oxford University Press, 2013, 336 p.,



"The first volume to provide a theoretical examination of arbitration, which is increasingly common, especially in disputes between investors and states; Written by one of the world's most eminent international arbitration practitioners and scholars; Explores why individuals, companies, and States might choose to go to arbitration rather than through conventional litigation; Examines the public, private, and ethical challenges facing arbitration, and assesses its potential benefits."

[Europe-Etats-Unis : les enjeux de l'accord de libre-échange](#) /

Danièle Favari, Y. Michel, 2014, 96 p.,



"Alors que le TAFTA, partenariat de libre-échange entre l'Union européenne et les Etats-Unis, est en cours de négociation, l'auteure s'interroge sur les possibles dangers d'un marché commun sur le plan économique mais aussi social, sanitaire et environnemental : normes nivelées vers le bas, aliments aux OGM et aux hormones, gaz de schiste, etc."

EP Research Service weekly newsletter on International Trade

The EP Research Service weekly electronic newsletter covers EU positions, academic studies and press articles on International trade issues. [Browse the archive and sign up](#). For more information please visit our intranet pages on [International Trade](#), Contact - [Nils Hammarlund](#), Ext. 42871 / [Odile Maisse](#), Ext. 46201, EP Research Service

Press releases

[MEPs call for more transparency in transatlantic trade talks](#)

[Plenary Session](#) – 16-07-2014 - 10:52

EU citizens must be better informed of the progress of EU-US talks on the proposed Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), said MEPs from all political groups debating the issue with EU trade Commissioner Karel De Gucht on Tuesday afternoon

Important Meetings and Events

WTO events

23-25 July	Trade Policy Review: Panama
24-25 July	General Council
29 August	Dispute Settlement Body
16-18 September	Trade Policy Review: Chinese Taipei

Events calendar [2014](#)

Useful links

INTA Links:

[List of INTA Members](#)
[INTA Intranet](#) & [E-Committee](#)
[INTA Internet](#)

EU Links:

[European Commission - Trade](#)
[European Council](#)
[Council of Ministers](#)
[Italian presidency](#)

Other Links

[WTO](#)
[Documents and publications](#)

Calendar of committee's meetings for 2014

The next meeting of the Committee on International Trade is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 22, July. The calendar of 2014 meetings can be found [here](#).

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