



INTA Newsletter

Newsletter of the European Parliament Committee on International Trade



VIII Legislature, N°54 – 13 April 2015

Highlights

EP puts forward recommendations for TTIP negotiations

Conflict minerals: INTA considers more than 600 amendments

Exchange of views with Commission Vice-President Jyrki Katainen

Next Meeting

Monday, 13 April 2015 (15.00-18.30)

Room: József Antall (JAN) 6Q2

Tuesday, 14 April 2015 (9.00-12.30)

Room: Altiero Spinelli (ASP) 3G-3

Tuesday, 14 April 2015 (15.00-18.30)

Room: Altiero Spinelli (ASP) 3G-3

Draft agenda

Webstreaming

Meeting documents

Contents

Meeting highlights (13-14/04/2015)	1
Recent events	6
Selected trade news	8
Publications	9
Coming soon	11
Various	13

EU-Vietnam trade talks: MEPs call for substance over speed



With the negotiations for an EU-Vietnam FTA reaching the final ultimate phase, an 8-strong delegation of trade MEPs led by INTA Committee Chairman Mr Bernd Lange visited Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City on 7-9 April 2015. During the meetings with the Prime Minister Dung, Foreign and Trade Vice-Ministers, the Chairman of the Economic Committee of the National Assembly, and many other counterparts, the INTA Committee members welcomed the commitment of Vietnamese to conclude soon, but underlined that the substance (of talks and quality of the agreement) must prevail over speed. MEPs met the EU business community in Vietnam and held field visits to textiles and automotive industries in Ho Chi Minh City, as well as a meeting with the Chairman of the People's Committee of the city (Mayor of Ho Chi Minh City).

[EU-Vietnam trade relations](#)

[Press release](#)

Meeting highlights (13-14/04/2015)

EP puts forward recommendations for TTIP negotiations

Consideration of amendments

The INTA Committee will have an extensive discussion on the numerous amendments tabled to the draft report by the INTA Standing Rapporteur for the US and Chairman, Bernd Lange. This debate will lay the ground for further discussion on possible compromise amendments to be negotiated among political groups within the coming weeks leading to the vote of the TTIP resolution in INTA, scheduled to take place on 7 May 2015.

<p>Rapporteur: Bernd Lange (S&D) Administrator: Felix Lutz Procedure: 2014/2228 (INI) Lead committee: INTA</p>	<p>TIMETABLE Consideration of amendments: 14 April 2015 Planned vote in INTA: 28 May 2015 Planned vote in plenary: June 2015</p>
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Conflict minerals: INTA considers more than 600 amendments

Adoption of the draft report



INTA will vote on a record number of amendments to a legislative report tabled in INTA - more than 600 in total. The aim of this key dossier is to set up an EU system for supply chain due diligence in order to provide greater transparency when importers, smelters and refiners source their minerals from conflict-affected or high risk areas. A broad range of amendments were tabled: some seeking to ensure that the system would be mandatory, others to broaden the scope of the regulation beyond trade in tin, tantalum, tungsten and gold and others specifying in more detail

the sort of due diligence that would be applied.

Rapporteur: Juliu Winkler (EPP) Administrator: Leon Peijnenburg Procedure: 2014/0059(COD) Lead committee: INTA	TIMETABLE Planned vote in INTA: 14 April 2015 Planned vote in plenary: May 2015
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Trade in seal products

Consideration of draft opinion

Members will consider the draft opinion by Mr Bendtsen on the amendment of the regulation 1007/2009 on trade in seal products. The "Seals Regulation" adopted in 2009 set a general ban on the placement of these products on the Union's market, with the exception of the products derived from hunts traditionally conducted by Inuit and other indigenous communities (IC) and the exception of seals hunted for reasons of sustainable management of marine resources (MRM). This legislation was challenged by Canada and Norway in the World Trade Organization. The WTO did not find these exceptions entirely justified. A new regulation to comply with the WTO decision has to be in place by October 2015.

Draftsperson: Bendt Bendtsen (EPP) Administrator: Gabriel Alvarez Recarte Procedure: 2015/0028 (COD) Lead committee: IMCO	TIMETABLE Deadline for amendments: 17 April 2015 Planned vote in INTA: 7 May 2015 Planned vote in plenary: tbd
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External impact of EU trade and investment policy on public-private initiatives

Consideration of draft report



INTA will consider a draft report by Jan Zahradil (ECR) to which DEVE and IMCO are also contributing though opinions. The aim is to analyse the benefits of the participation of EU SMEs and also larger companies in PPPs (in traditional areas but also innovative sectors) in non-EU countries to boost growth, jobs and innovation in the EU and the host countries. Best practices, challenges and the way forward are to be discussed.

Rapporteur: Jan Zahradil (ECR)
Administrator: Mercedes Rodríguez Sarró
Procedure: 2014/2233(INI)
Lead committee: INTA

TIMETABLE
Deadline for amendments: 17 April 2015
Planned vote in INTA: 28 May 2015
Planned vote in plenary: July 2015

Exchange of views with the EC Vice-President Jyrki Katainen



INTA will for the first time host Commission Vice President Jyrki Katainen to exchange ideas on how to create synergies between the agenda for "Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness", the Investment Plan, the review of Europe 2020 Strategy and the EU's trade and investment policy so that the EU can provide its workers and companies with the best tools to defend their values and interests in a challenging world and contribute to innovation and wellbeing in the EU and beyond.

Exchange of views with the Ambassador of China Yang Yanyi

Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the EU, Mme Yang Yanyi will appear before the INTA Committee. China is the EU's second biggest trading partner and the EU is China's biggest trading partner. The two economic giants trade more than 1 billion euros worth every day. The EU has had a significant trade deficit with China, but at the same time China has been for years the fastest growing market to the EU's exports. The EU and China are currently negotiating a comprehensive investment agreement for better protection of investment and market access. INTA Standing Rapporteur for China is Iuliu Winkler (EPP).

Monitoring Group Activities

The INTA Committee meeting is expected to receive feedback from the meetings of the Monitoring Groups on Japan, Canada, China, Mexico as well as the GSP beneficiary countries.

[INTA Monitoring Groups](#)

Recent events

Quote of the month

Gabrielius Landsbergis (EPP, LT). speaking after the plenary vote on €1.8 billion in macro-financial assistance (MFA) to Ukraine:

The result of today's vote is a strong political message, not only to Ukraine to show that the EU stands firmly by it, but also to those countries which seek to see us divided in helping Ukraine

[Press release: EP approves €1.8 billion loan package to Ukraine](#)

Adopted in previous INTA meetings (18-19/03/2015)

- [Macro-financial assistance to Ukraine](#)

Rapporteur: Gabrielius Landsbergis (PPE)

Vote on draft report

in favour	against	abstentions
30	7	0

- [Exceptional trade measures for countries and territories participating in or linked to the European Union's Stabilisation and Association process and suspending its application with regard to Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)

Rapporteur: Goffredo Maria Bettini (S&D)

Vote on draft report:

in favour	against	abstentions
31	6	0

Vote on the decision to enter into informal trilogue negotiations with the Council after a partial vote (amendments only, rule 61)

in favour	against	abstentions
33	2	0

Chair's activities:

✓ 25-31 March: Visit to Japan

- Meeting with EBC chairman
- Meeting with State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Nakayama
- Meeting with Japanese Trade Union Confederation (RENGO)
- Meeting with Toyota Motor Co.
- JR East- Site Visit and Meeting
- Meeting with the Japan Business Federation "Keidanren"
- Meeting with chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defense, House of Councillors, Ms KATAYAMA
- Meeting with EU-Japan Parliamentary League of Friendship members
- Meeting with chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the House of Representatives, Ms. TSUCHIYA
- Meeting with Parliamentary Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Sonoura
- State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Mr. Yamagiwa
- Meeting with Pro. Watanabe, Keio University SFC

✓ 01-02 April: Visit to Singapore

- Meeting with Minister for Trade and Industry Lim Hng Kiang
- Lunch with Permanent Secretary (Trade & Industry) Mrs Ow Foong Pheng
- Briefing of Singapore Economy and Singapore's Energy Policies (by MTI)
- Visit to Port of Singapore
- Meeting with Eurocham and european businesses
- Meeting with Singapore-Europe Friendship Group and Tour of Parliament
- Meeting with Institute of Policy Studies
- Meeting with NTUC Assistant Secretary-General Patrick Tay

✓ 06-10 April: Visit to Vietnam

Selected trade news

Commission outlines steps for ISDS reform

During the March INTA meeting, Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström unveiled preliminary proposals on revamped investment protection and ISDS mechanism in the TTIP and other future FTAs. Proposals go beyond provisions of the EU-Canada trade deal, including an article on the right to regulate.

[Commissioner's speech](#)

Trade and investment barriers persist

The EU's strategic economic partners maintain a variety of barriers that significantly hinder international trade and investment opportunities of European companies, concludes the fifth edition of the EU's Trade and Investment Barriers Report (TIBR). Russia tops the list of major obstacles in the EU's priority markets, followed by China, India and Brazil, Argentina and the US. Barriers identified in the report include local sourcing, localisation and data storing requirements, discriminatory taxing, sanitary and food-related barriers and intellectual property rights issues.

[Press release](#)

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

On-going investigations and measures in force

Investigations

On 28 February 2015, there were 81 anti-dumping (which were subsequently extended in 26 cases¹) and 14 countervailing measures (which were subsequently extended in 1 case¹) in force. Furthermore, there were undertakings in force from 4 countries covering 5 products. At the end of February, 38 investigations were on-going.

3 investigations were initiated, out of which 0 new investigations, 1 expiry review, 1 interim review, and 1 other review.

Measures

No provisional measures were imposed; 2 definitive measures were imposed (of which 1 anti-subsidy), involving imports from 2 countries and covering 2 products . 9 reviews were concluded with confirmation of duty.

Terminations

1 new investigation and 1 expiry review was concluded by termination.

For detailed information, see:

<http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/accessing-markets/trade-defence/>

RECENT WTO DISPUTE SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENTS

DSU developments as of 16 March 2015

- In **DS487** (United States – Conditional Tax Incentives for Large Civil Aircraft), the panel was established on 23 February 2015.
- In **DS485** (Russia — Tariff Treatment of Certain Agricultural and Manufacturing Products) on 26 February 2015, the EU filed a request for the establishment of a panel.
- In **DS438** (Argentina – Measures affecting the importation of goods), Argentina requested a reasonable period of time to implement the panel and Appellate Body rulings at the Dispute Settlement Body meeting of 23 February.

Publications

Latest publications by the DG EXPO Policy Department

- Export credits - evaluation of the Commission's report 2012
- Comparative study on access to documents (and confidentiality rules) in international trade negotiations
- Trade and investment in energy in the context of EU Common commercial policy

See [more](#)

Upcoming publications from DG EXPO Policy Department

- Protectionism in G20
- Trade and economic relations with Japan
- The 'new' EU's IPR protection strategy in third countries: a short comment
- International trade and gender issues

New print and online books in the EP Research Service library collection

[Substantive protection under investment treaties a legal and economic analysis](#) [e-book]

Jonathan Bonnitcha, Cambridge University Press, 2014, xxx-396 p.

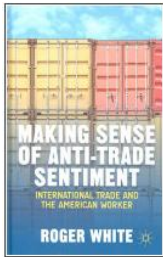
"This book provides the first systematic analysis of the consequences of the substantive protections that investment treaties provide to foreign investors. It proposes a new framework for identifying and evaluating the costs and benefits of differing levels of investment treaty protection, and uses this framework to evaluate the levels of protection for foreign investors implied by different interpretations of the fair and equitable treatment and indirect expropriation provisions of investment."



[Making sense of anti-trade sentiment: international trade and the American worker](#)

Roger White, Palgrave Macmillan [2014], xiii-258 p.

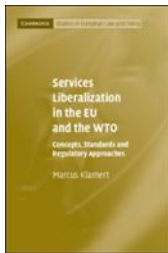
"Opinion polls indicate that a considerable portion of the U.S. public holds negative views of international trade. The extent of anti-trade sentiment exhibited by the American public is largely out of step with public opinion elsewhere in the world. In fact, the U.S. may be one of the most trade-wary societies. Worries that trade, particularly increased imports, will lead to job loss and/or reduced wages for domestic workers are thought to underlie the negative views."



[Services liberalization in the EU and the WTO: concepts, standards and regulatory approaches](#)

Marcus Klamert, Cambridge University Press, 2014, 356 p.

"Both in WTO law and in EU law there is a dichotomy between liberalization based on market access and liberalization targeting domestic regulation. Consequently, both regimes share the problem of distinguishing national measures impairing market access and those that do not have such effect. Moreover, both the EU and the WTO exempt certain categories of 'public' services under partly comparable and complex conditions. Specific to EU law are the legal issues that have arisen because of the recent adoption of the Services Directive, which has both amended EU services law and has led to a fragmentation of the rules applicable to different service sectors in the EU. A final chapter discusses possible approaches to regulation such as home state rule, host state rule and mutual recognition from a comparative perspective."



[Chine-Afrique : le grand pillage](#)

Julien Wagner ; préface de Pascal Boniface, Eyrolles, 2014, 127 p.

"Essai sur les investissements chinois engagés en Afrique et leurs répercussions sur le développement du continent. L'auteur parle de nouvelle colonisation capitaliste. Depuis 20 ans, la Chine prend pied en Afrique, exploitant ses ressources tout en vendant ses marchandises à bas coût. Sa méthode ? Des prêts tous azimuts soutenus par de gigantesques entreprises d'État chinoises. Néocolonialisme ? Impérialisme ? Mue par un appétit insatiable, Pékin semble ne reculer devant rien pour atteindre ses objectifs."



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

Coming soon

INTA/European Parliament:	
<p>Votes in INTA:</p> <p>14 April 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Union system for supply chain due diligence self-certification of responsible importers of tin, tantalum and tungsten, their ores, and gold originating in conflict-affected and high-risk areas - European Energy Security Strategy 	<p>Trade files in plenary:</p> <p>April 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exceptional trade measures for countries and territories participating in or linked to the European Union's Stabilisation and Association process and suspending its application with regard to Bosnia and Herzegovina - Imports of textile products from certain third countries not covered by bilateral agreements, protocols or other arrangements, or by other specific Union import rules (recast) - Repeal of Council Regulation (EEC) No 3030/93 on common rules for imports of certain textile products from third countries <p>May 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Union system for supply chain due diligence self-certification of responsible importers of tin, tantalum and tungsten, their ores, and gold originating in conflict-affected and high-risk areas
<p>INTA meeting dates</p> <p>06-07 May 2015 28 May 2015</p>	<p>Delegation to the CARIFORUM - EU Parliamentary Committee</p> <p>17-19 June 2015 - Joint EU-Cariforum Parliamentary Committee - Guyana (tbc)</p>

European Union	World Trade Organisation
<p>Commission Work Program Key documents</p> <p>Trade negotiations</p> <p>TiSA - Trade in Services Agreement 13 –17/04, Geneva, Switzerland</p> <p>TTIP negotiation: 9th round 20-24/04, Washington DC, United States</p> <p>EU-Japan FTA negotiations: 10th round 23–28/04, Tokyo, Japan</p> <p>EU-Myanmar/Burma Investment Protection Agreement: 2nd round 04-08/05, Yangon , Myanmar</p> <p>TiSA - Trade in Services Agreement 06-10/07, Geneva, Switzerland</p> <p>TTIP negotiation: 10th round 13-17/07, Brussels, Belgium</p> <p>More information</p> <p>EU Trade Council meetings</p> <p>20 April 2015 07 May 2015 18 May 2015 26 May 2015</p>	<p>WTO Events calendar 2015</p> <p>30 April-1 May Negotiating Group on Rules (Technical Group)</p> <p>7 May Workshop — Information Technology Agreement (ITA)</p> <p>20 May Dispute Settlement Body</p> <p>2-4 June Trade Policy Review: India</p> <p>WTO</p>

Various

VARIOUS	
<p>Useful links</p> <p>List of INTA Members INTA Intranet & e-Committee INTA Internet</p> <p>European Commission - Trade European Council Council of Ministers Latvian presidency</p> <p>Documents and publications</p>	<p>INTA on Twitter</p> <p>INTA tweets</p> <p>Tweets of INTA members</p> <p>Newshub</p>
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<p>Editorial: Alberto Rodas González</p> <p>Coordination: Mindaugas Kojelis (Tel. 2 28 40914) Sandra Spatafora (Tel. 2 28 43088)</p> <p>Contributions: INTA secretariat, Chairman's Office, Policy Department, EP Library, DG Trade</p>	<p>Further information: Do you wish further information? Contact the INTA Secretariat: inta-secretariat@ep.europa.eu</p> <p>or visit the website of the INTA Committee</p>
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