



INTA Newsletter

Newsletter of the European Parliament Committee on International Trade



VIII Legislature, N°55 – 5 May 2015

Highlights

[Investor protection in TTIP](#)

[Ratification of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement](#)

[Votes on IPR protection and Seal products](#)

Next Meeting

Wednesday, 6 May 2015 (09.00-12.30)

Room: József Antall (JAN) 6Q2

Wednesday, 6 May 2015 (15.00-18.30)

Room: József Antall (JAN) 6Q2

Thursday, 7 May 2015 (9.00-12.30)

Room: József Antall (JAN) 6Q2

[Draft agenda](#)

[Webstreaming](#)

[Meeting documents](#)

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EU targets trade in conflict minerals

Plenary vote

Members get ready for the final vote on measures aiming to stop trade in illicitly mined "conflict minerals" fuelling armed conflicts, while promoting legitimate trade helping people in conflict and high-risk areas. INTA has enhanced the draft measures envisaging a voluntary approach by obliging smelters and refiners to perform due diligence, while giving other companies incentives to opt in. The draft on conflict-free mineral trade will be put to vote during the 18-21 May plenary sitting.

[More](#)

Meeting highlights (6-7/05/2015)

Commissioner Malmström refines plans on investment protection in TTIP

Exchange of views



Following preliminary ideas on revamped investment protection and ISDS mechanism presented in INTA on 18 March, Commissioner Malmström will present the Commission's arguments on the most suitable legal mechanism for protecting EU investors when they invest in the US and vice versa. In 2014, the Commission undertook a consultation on the question of investor state dispute settlement, i.e. a separate system of redress whereby investors under certain circumstances could launch cases against states in arbitration tribunals. In the framework of the Structured Dialogue between the Parliament and the Commission, Commissioner Malmström will address the key issues in the Commission Work Programme of 2015 and the one to be launched in 2016.

The Structured Dialogue is a regular exchange of views between the two institutions in order to seek a common understanding based on the Commission Work Programme.

INTA scrutinizes the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement

Exchange of views

INTA will discuss the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement for which Parliament's consent is required. The rapporteur is Mr Pablo Zalba (EPP) and the DEVE Committee is also contributing through an opinion. The Trade Facilitation Agreement is the first multilateral agreement concluded by the WTO since it was founded in 1995. Under the agreement customs procedures will be accelerated and trade costs will be reduced by around 10-15% thus helping SMEs to access new markets. Furthermore, the EU and other donors will contribute financially to improve customs systems of developing and least developed countries. The EU has budgeted €400 million for the period 2015-2020.

Rapporteur:	Pablo Zalba Bidegain (PPE)	TIMETABLE	
Administrators:	June O'Keeffe Gabriel Alvarez Recarte	Exchange of views:	6 May 2015
Procedure:	2015/0029(NLE) and 2015/2067(INI)	Consideration of draft report:	15-16 June 2015
Lead committee:	INTA	Planned vote in INTA:	13 July 2015
		Planned vote in Plenary:	September 2015

Uzbekistan: INTA hears experts on forced and child labour

Exchange of views with stakeholders



Trade MEPs return to the scrutiny of the situation in Uzbekistan. In 2011 the Parliament adopted an [interim report](#), making the consent to the EU-Textiles Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement conditional upon eradication of forced and child labour during the cotton harvest in Uzbekistan. INTA members kept the pressure for progress on human rights via a regular dialogue with the Commission, the International Labour Organisation, the Uzbek ambassador and civil society. On 7 May these stakeholders will return to give the latest update, enabling INTA to take stock of the progress in Uzbekistan. An important element in the discussion will be the [latest report of the ILO Committee of Experts](#). INTA members will decide whether sufficient progress has been made to warrant reconsidering giving consent to the Textile Protocol.

Annual reports 2012-2013 on subsidiarity and proportionality

Consideration of draft opinion

INTA will consider a draft opinion to the own-initiative report by the JURI committee on Annual reports 2012-2013 on subsidiarity and proportionality. The draft points out several uncertainties regarding the application of the above principles in the common commercial policy notably in the field of investment protection. Moreover, the draft opinion calls for more realistic and broader ex-ante impact assessments of major EU trade agreements as well as for more involvement of the civil society and SMEs in the decision-making process regarding the EU trade policy.

Rapporteur: [Davide Borrelli](#) (EFDD)

Administrator: [Tatiana Mrazikova](#)

Procedure: [2014/2252\(INI\)](#)

Lead committee: JURI

TIMETABLE

Consideration of draft opinion: 6 May 2015

Deadline for amendments: 20 May 2015

Consideration of amendments: 15 June 2015

Planned vote in INTA: 16 June 2015

Planned vote in JURI: July 2015 (tbc)

Protection of intellectual property beyond EU border

Adoption of the draft report

INTA will vote on the draft report on the Commission IPR strategy in third countries.

There were 159 amendments tabled to the draft report. The 27 agreed compromise amendments signal broad support. Plenary vote is foreseen for the June Strasbourg session.

Rapporteur: Alessia Mosca (S&D) Administrator: Miriam Korteweg Procedure: 2014/2206(INI) Lead committee: INTA	TIMETABLE Vote in INTA: 7 May 2015 Planned vote in plenary: June 2015
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Trade in seal products

Adoption of the draft opinion

INTA will vote on the draft opinion on Trade in Seal Products and 48 amendments tabled by members. The aim of this proposal is to align EU law to the WTO ruling regarding the placing on the market of seal products and the traditional hunts conducted by Inuit population.

Draftsperson: Bendt Bendtsen (EPP) Administrator: Gabriel Alvarez Recarte Procedure: 2015/0028 (COD) Lead committee: IMCO	TIMETABLE Vote in INTA: 7 May 2015 Planned vote in plenary: September 2015
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Boosting private sector's role in development

Consideration of draft opinion



Members will consider a draft opinion on measures aimed at enhancing the contribution of private sector to inclusive and sustainable development. INTA opinion will feed into a report by DEVE committee on the same topic. The draft stresses the need to create enabling environment for local micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. It underlines the importance of encouraging diversification and increasing domestic value-added by strengthening manufacturing and agro-processing sectors in developing countries.

Rapporteur: Lola SÁNCHEZ CALDENTEY (GUE/NGL) Administrator: Mindaugas Kojelis Procedure: 2014/2205(INI) Lead committee: DEVE	TIMETABLE Consideration of draft opinion: 6 May 2015 Deadline for amendments: 8 May 2015 Vote in INTA: 28 May 2015 Planned vote in plenary: September 2015
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The Eastern partners: between the EU and the Eurasian Economic Union

Presentation of a study

INTA members will discuss the finding of [a study](#) on the impact of tough choices of the six countries in the EU's Eastern Partnership, sandwiched between Brussels and Moscow. Georgia, Moldova and later Ukraine decided to sign Association Agreements with the EU, while Belarus and belatedly Armenia chose to adhere to the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU).

Monitoring Group Activities

According to the established practice, the Committee will receive feedback from the INTA Standing Rapporteurs on the latest meetings of the Monitoring Groups held since the last INTA meeting, including the ones on the US, Canada, Australia & New Zealand and TiSA.

[INTA Monitoring Groups](#)

Recent events

Quote of the month

"Our aim is an efficient, balanced and workable regulation capable to stop profits from minerals being used to fund armed conflicts while promoting responsible sourcing from conflict-affected areas"

Iuliu Winkler, INTA Rapporteur on „Conflict Minerals Regulation“

[Press release](#)

Adopted in previous INTA meetings (13-14/04/2015)

- [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](#)
Rapporteur: Iuliu Winkler (PPE)

Vote on draft report

in favour	against	abstentions
22	16	2

- [European Energy Security Strategy](#)
Rapporteur: Helmut Scholz (GUE/NGL)

Vote on draft opinion:

in favour	against	abstentions
32	6	0

Chair's activities:

- ✓ 13 April: Meetings with Portuguese State Secretary for European Affairs Bruno Mações
- ✓ 21 April: Meeting with ILO Deputy Director General Sandra Polaski
- ✓ 22 April: Meeting with French Minister of State for Foreign Trade Matthias Fekl

Selected trade news

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

On-going investigations and measures in force

Investigations

On 31 March 2015, there were 81 anti-dumping and 14 countervailing in force. Furthermore, there were undertakings in force from 4 countries covering 5 products. At the end of March, 37 investigations were on-going. 5 investigations were initiated: 1 new anti-subsidy investigation, 1 expiry review, 1 interim review, 1 other review, 1 anti-circumvention investigation.

New proceedings initiated in 2015:

- Anti-subsidy proceeding concerning imports of tubes and pipes of ductile cast iron (also known as spheroidal graphite cast iron), originating in India, OJ C 83, 11.3.2015

Measures

2 provisional antidumping measures were imposed involving imports from 2 countries and covering 1 product; 2 definitive measures were imposed, involving imports from 2 countries and covering 2 products, and the Commission accepted undertakings offered by exporters in 1 case, 11 reviews were concluded with confirmation of duty.

Terminations

1 new investigation and 2 reviews were concluded by termination.

For detailed information, see:

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

RECENT WTO DISPUTE SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENTS

Latest DSU developments as of 24 April 2015

- **DS487 (United States – Conditional Tax Incentives for Large Civil Aircraft);** the panel was composed on 22 April 2015.
- **DS492 (European Union – Measures Affecting Tariff Concessions on Certain Poultry Meat Products);** On 8 April 2015 China requested consultations with the European Union regarding measures to modify the EU tariff concessions on certain poultry meat products. The measures are the result of two EU requests to modify the EU tariff concessions on certain poultry meat products under Article XXVIII of the GATT 1994 in 2006 and in 2009. These modifications in 2007 came about following the WTO panel lost to Brazil and Thailand (DS 269/DS286) on the tariff classification of some poultry products (mainly meat with some added salt) following a GATT Article XXVIII procedure. Following the WTO rules the increase of these duties was accompanied, after negotiation with interested parties, by the opening of tariff-rate quotas (TRQ) for the products concerned. A second exercise under Article XXVIII GATT was launched in June 2009 by the European Union and concerned 8 further tariff lines for processed poultry meat.
- **DS485 (Russia — Tariff Treatment of Certain Agricultural and Manufacturing Products);** the panel was established on 25 March 2015.

Publications

Latest publications by the DG EXPO Policy Department

- [Comparative study on access to documents \(and confidentiality rules\) in international trade negotiations](#)



In order to ensure parliamentary oversight of the EU's trade policies clear and predictable rules and procedures for the EP to access relevant information is advisable. The study to be presented in INTA provides an overview on the rules guaranteeing access to information in international trade negotiations both in the EU and in selected third countries. It evaluates the existing arrangements on access to information by Parliament in view of the provisions included in the Treaty of Lisbon, international norms and agreements, EU case-law, and similar rules, arrangements and practices in a group of national parliaments.

- [Protectionism in G20](#)
- [Re-communicating the EU's IPR strategy for third countries](#)
- Trade and investment in energy in the context of EU Common commercial policy

Upcoming publications from DG EXPO Policy Department

- International trade and gender issues
- Trade and economic relations with Japan
- Trade and economic relations with China
- Role of wholesalers and distribution groups in international trade
- Assessment of [TDI policy](#) decisions for 2014 (based on monitoring report published by the EC)

See [more](#)

Recent publications by the EP Research Service

[Diverging views on the new Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank \(AIIB\) in the US and Europe](#)

Cemal Karabas, EPRS At a glance, April 2015, 1 p.

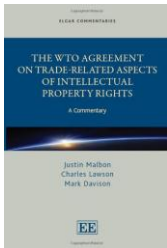
Infrastructure investments are an important element in international economic cooperation. While the US has taken a critical stance on this Chinese influenced infrastructure bank, some EU Member States have announced that they will support the AIIB.

[Monitoring CO2 emissions in maritime transport](#)

Marketa Pape, EPRS At a Glance, 24 April 2015, 1 p.

In 2013, the European Commission presented proposals to create a system for collecting and publishing verified annual data on CO2 emissions from large ships using EU ports. This will indirectly support EU action on climate change and can contribute to the ongoing international debate on cutting emissions from shipping at global level.

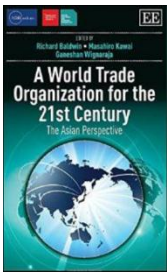
New print and online books in the EP Research Service library collection



[The WTO agreement on trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights : a commentary](#)

Justin Malbon, Charles Lawson, Mark Davison. - Edward Elgar, [2014], lv-875 p.

"Pt. I. General provisions and basic principles -- pt. II. Standards concerning the availability, scope and use of intellectual property rights -- pt. III. Enforcement of intellectual property rights -- pt. IV. Acquisition and maintenance of intellectual property rights and related inter-partes procedures -- pt. V. Dispute prevention and settlement -- pt. VI. Transitional arrangements -- pt. VII. Institutional arrangements: final provisions."



[A World Trade Organization for the 21st Century : the Asian perspective](#)

R. Baldwin, M. Kawai, G. Wignaraja. - Edward Elgar Publishing, 2014, 448 p.

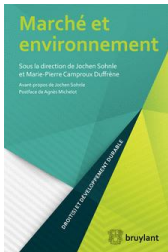
"Economically salient Asia has built deep supply chains over decades, whilst experimenting with mega-regional trade agreements and economic policies to sustain growth amid a fragile economy. The Asian-led RCEP and the United States-led TPP are competing to set standards for Asia's trade and supply chains. With contributions from prominent Asian and international trade experts, this book critically examines key changes occurring in the world trading system and explores policy implications for Asia."



[Droit international de l'investissement](#)

Arnaud de Nanteuil, Pedone, 2014, 431 p.

"Premier manuel en langue française qui présente la dimension historique de la discipline, en expose les sources, aborde le règlement des différends et décrit les règles substantielles de protection des investisseurs étrangers."



[Marché et environnement : le marché : menace ou remède pour la protection internationale de l'environnement](#)

Jochen Sohnle, Marie-Pierre Camproux-Duffrène, Agnès Michelot, Bruylant, 2014, 528 p.

"L'ouvrage réunit des études sur les marchés spécifiquement environnementaux, sur la protection environnementale à l'intérieur de marchés intégrés, sur des instruments spécifiques de marché, sur la régulation des marchés ainsi que sur la marchandisation des ressources des espaces maritimes. Ces aspects sont complétés par la prise en compte de la dimension des droits de l'homme."

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>07 May 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Strategy for the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights in third countries – Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 1007/2009 on trade in seal products 	<p>Trade files in plenary:</p> <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>28 May 2015 15-16 June 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>EU-Myanmar/Burma Investment Protection Agreement: 2nd round 04-08/05, Yangon , Myanmar</p> <p>EU-Japan Summit 29/05, Tokyo, Japan</p> <p>EU-China Investment Agreement: 6th round of negotiations 01 – 04/06, Brussels , Belgium</p> <p>TISA - Trade in Services Agreement 06-10/07, Geneva, Switzerland</p> <p>EU-Japan FTA negotiations: 11th round 06-10/07, Tokyo, Japan, To be confirmed</p> <p>TTIP negotiation: 10th round 13-17/07, Brussels, Belgium</p> <p>More information</p> <p>EU Trade Council meetings</p> <p>07 May 2015 18 May 2015 26 May 2015 22 June 2015</p>	<p>WTO Events calendar 2015</p> <table> <tr> <td>7 May</td> <td>Workshop — Information Technology Agreement (ITA)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 May</td> <td>Dispute Settlement Body</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-4 June</td> <td>Trade Policy Review: India</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14 June</td> <td>“Merci Genève” 20th anniversary Open Day</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15-26 June</td> <td>WIPO-WTO colloquium for teachers of intellectual property</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15-17 June</td> <td>Trade Policy Review: Canada</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19 June</td> <td>Dispute Settlement Body</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19 June</td> <td>Symposium on Government Procurement</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23-25 June</td> <td>Trade Policy Review: Chile</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29 June - 1 July</td> <td>Trade Policy Review: New Zealand</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30 June - 2 July</td> <td>Fifth Global Review of Aid for Trade</td> </tr> </table> <p>WTO</p>	7 May	Workshop — Information Technology Agreement (ITA)	20 May	Dispute Settlement Body	2-4 June	Trade Policy Review: India	14 June	“Merci Genève” 20th anniversary Open Day	15-26 June	WIPO-WTO colloquium for teachers of intellectual property	15-17 June	Trade Policy Review: Canada	19 June	Dispute Settlement Body	19 June	Symposium on Government Procurement	23-25 June	Trade Policy Review: Chile	29 June - 1 July	Trade Policy Review: New Zealand	30 June - 2 July	Fifth Global Review of Aid for Trade
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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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