



INTA Newsletter

Newsletter of the European Parliament Committee on International Trade



VIII Legislature, N°58 – 21 September 2015

Highlights

Commission unveils investment protection reform

Trade MEPs vote on a revamped Anti-Torture Regulation

INTA sets out priorities ahead of the WTO Nairobi Ministerial (MC10)

Next Meeting

Monday, 21 September 2015 (15.00-18.30)

Room: József Antall (JAN) 4Q1

Tuesday, 22 September 2015 (09.00-12.30)

Room: József Antall (JAN) 4Q1

Draft agenda

Webstreaming

Meeting documents

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Meeting highlights (21-22/09/2015)

Commission unveils investment protection reform

Deputy Director General of DG Trade, Mr Mauro Petriccione, will present to Members the EU proposal on investment protection in the EU-US Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations. Responding to the demands of the Parliament on the reform of the investor-to-state dispute settlement (ISDS) mechanism, the Commission has unveiled a new system for resolving disputes between investors and states. The new Investment Court System would replace the existing ISDS system in TTIP and other current and future EU negotiations on investment. Within the public Investment Court System, the claims will be examined by the Tribunal and the appeals will be heard by a new Appeal Tribunal, operating on similar principles to the WTO Appellate Body. A modernised transparent system would balance the governments' right to regulate with clearly delimited rights of investors to contest discrimination. The Parliament has called for a transparent dispute resolution mechanism in its 8 July recommendations for the TTIP negotiations.

[EP recommendations for TTIP negotiations](#)

[EC press release](#)

Anti-Torture Regulation: halting trade in inhumane equipment

Vote on the draft report



INTA will vote on a revamped "Anti-Torture Regulation", aiming to step-up the EU-wide controls on trade in items that could be misused for capital punishment, torture, inhuman or degrading treatment. Members seek to enhance the oversight of transit, promotion and other ancillary services. They want to strengthen controls by including a "catch-all" clause for non-listed items and by boosting co-ordination between authorities. To become a law, the amendment needs to be agreed upon by the EP and the Council.

Rapporteur: [Marietje Schaake](#) (ALDE)
Administrator: [Mindaugas Kojelis](#)
Procedure: [2014/0005\(COD\)](#)
Lead committee: INTA

TIMETABLE

Planned vote in INTA: 22 September 2015
Planned vote in Plenary: November 2015

INTA sets out priorities ahead of the WTO Nairobi Ministerial (MC10)

Consideration of the draft motion resolution

Ahead of the 10th World Trade Organisation (WTO) Ministerial Conference taking place in Nairobi, Kenya this December, where the European Parliament will also send a delegation, INTA will adopt a resolution stating its priorities for the WTO negotiations. The draft resolution drawn up by the co-chairs of the Parliament's WTO Steering group will be voted by INTA in October.

Rapporteur: Bernd Lange (S&D) & Pablo Zalba Bidegain (EPP) Administrator: Helena Halldorf Romero Procedure: 2015/2632(RSP) Lead committee: INTA	TIMETABLE Consideration of draft report: 21-22 September 2015 Planned vote in INTA: 15 October 2015 Planned vote in Plenary: November 2015
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INTA continues dialogue with OECD

Exchange of views

INTA MEPs will hold an exchange of views with Mari Kiviniemi, Deputy Secretary-General of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Mr Kiviniemi will present the OECD's estimates on world trade and key economic developments and the challenges that come along. The OECD is one of the most important global standard-setter in world trade and plays a crucial role in areas such as the developing of specific guidance on due diligence, trade liberalisation and export credits.

"Safety valves" in case of surging imports from Moldova and Georgia

Joint debate



INTA will discuss proposals for Regulations aimed at implementing the trade parts (DCFTAs) of the Association Agreements between the EU and two of its Eastern partners, Moldova and Georgia. The first proposal concerns the incorporation into the EU law of the safeguard clause and the anti-circumvention mechanism foreseen in the EU-Moldova Agreement. The second one aims to incorporate into the EU legislation the anti-circumvention rules foreseen in the EU-

Georgia Association Agreement. Both are largely based on comparable regulations agreed by the co-legislators for some of the EU's recent FTAs, namely with South Korea, Central America, Colombia and Peru.

Rapporteur: Helmut Scholz (GUE/NGL) & Gabrielius Landsbergis (EPP) Administrator: Tatiana Mrazikova Procedure: 2015/0079(COD) & 2015/0080(COD) Lead committee: INTA	TIMETABLE Exchange of views: 21-22 September 2015 Consideration of draft report: 15 October 2015 Planned vote in INTA: 19 November 2015 Planned vote in Plenary: tbc
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Recommendations on the Trade in Services negotiations

Consideration of Working Document



The currently negotiated TiSA - Trade in Services Agreement - is aimed at opening new services markets worldwide and has a big potential for the EU, where 68% of manpower is employed in the services sector and 10 million jobs dependent on exports of services. What is TiSA and why is it needed? These questions will be answered during a discussion on the [working document](#) that will serve as a basis for an upcoming INTA report.

Rapporteur: Viviane Reding (EPP) Administrator: Rémi Pierot Procedure: 2015/2233(INI) Lead committee: INTA	TIMETABLE Cons. of working document: 21-22 September 2015 Consideration of draft report: 15 October 2015 Planned vote in INTA: 10 December 2015 Planned vote in Plenary: January/February 2016
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Progress in Bangladesh Sustainability Compact

Exchange of views with stakeholders

INTA continues scrutinising implementation of the "Sustainability Compact" in Bangladesh. In place since July 2013, the initiative by the EU Commission, ILO and the Bangladeshi government aims to improve labour rights and working conditions in the Bangladeshi ready-made garment industry - a sector, which has been given tremendous boost by unilateral duty-free access to the EU market under the EU's "Everything, but Arms" initiative. In January 2015 INTA discussed the state of play with the Ambassador of Bangladesh to the EU. A follow-up exchange of views will be held with local and European businesses based in Bangladesh as well as representatives from the trade unions and the ILO. INTA closely follows implementation of trade agreements and associated initiatives aimed at improving living conditions through trade.

Opening of negotiations for an EU-Tunisia Free Trade Agreement

Exchange of views

On 27 May, Tunisia announced its readiness to engage into negotiations for a deep and comprehensive free trade agreement with the EU. The first negotiating round is planned for mid-October in Tunisia. Therefore it is timely that INTA Committee holds an exchange of views with the Tunisian Ambassador and the Commission (DG Trade) on the priorities and wishes of Tunisia regarding these negotiations. In addition, INTA Committee will adopt a resolution on the topic later in the year.

Rapporteur: Marielle de Sarnez (ALDE) Administrator: Rémi Pierot Procedure: 2015/2791(RSP) Lead committee: INTA	TIMETABLE Exchange of views: 21-22 September 2015 Consideration of draft report: 19 November 2015 Planned vote in INTA: 10 December 2015 Planned vote in Plenary: January 2016 (tbc)
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Annual Report of European Investment Bank (EIB)

First exchange of views

On a yearly basis, the EIB presents a report on its activities of the previous years. Apart from its contribution to the internal EU policies, the EIB has also a mandate to support EU action in third countries. It is the first annual report during the current EIB mandate that began in 2014 and will last until 2020. EIB's external activities have to be aligned with the EU external policy and actions. In order to fulfil its external mandate it operates a budget of 27 billion € that may be increased by additional 3 billion if agreed by the European Parliament and the Council.

Rapporteur: Yannick Jadot (Greens) Administrator: Gabriel Alvarez Procedure: 2015/2127(INI) Lead committee: CONT	TIMETABLE Exchange of views: 21-22 September 2015 Consideration of draft report: 15 October 2015 Planned vote in INTA: 19 November 2015 Planned vote in Plenary: tbc
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Implementation of the EU's macro-financial assistance

Exchange of views

The Commission's report on the implementation of macro-financial assistance to third countries in 2014 focuses on programmes in Ukraine, Georgia, Tunisia, Jordan and the Kyrgyz Republic. The total amount of outstanding MFA loans was EUR 1,842 million at year-end 2014. This sum is guaranteed by the EU budget. MFA loan disbursements are expected to reach close to EUR 1.9 billion in 2015. These figures do not, however, take account of possible new MFA operations for which the Commission has not yet presented a proposal. Given the considerable amount of outstanding MFA loans, INTA MEPs will discuss the latest MFA-implementation report two days ahead of the INTA delegation visit to Ukraine.

[Text of the report](#)

"The EU's Trade Policy: from gender-blind to gender-sensitive?"

Presentation of a study

The trade policy can have differing gender impact across the various sectors of the economy. The study aims to provide a background for policy makers to better understand the gender dimension of trade agreements in order to ensure that both women and men can reap the benefits of trade liberalisation and be protected from its negative effects. The study was prepared upon the initiative of the INTA Members responsible for Gender mainstreaming, namely Ms Tokia Saïfi (EPP), Ms Inmaculada Rodriguez-Pinero (S&D) and Ms Eleonora Forenza (GUE).

[Text of the study](#)

Monitoring Group Activities

The Committee is expected to receive feedback from the meetings of the Monitoring Groups, which were held since the last INTA meeting, namely USA, Japan, TiSA and Ecuador.

[INTA Monitoring Groups](#)

Recent events

Quote of the month

"The Court system proposed by the Commission represents a radical change of course in the EU's trade policy, driven by the strong pressure of citizens and the European Parliament"

INTA Chair Bernd Lange

Adopted in previous INTA meetings:

13-14/07/2015

- [Protocol amending the Marrakesh Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization](#)

Rapporteur: Pablo Zalba Bidegain (PPE)

Vote on draft report

in favour	against	abstentions
29	4	6

- [Protocol Amending the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization](#)

Rapporteur: Pablo Zalba Bidegain (PPE)

Vote on draft recommendation:

in favour	against	abstentions
33	4	2

- [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)

Decision on opening negotiations:

in favour	against	abstentions
24	0	15

31/08/2015

- [2016 general budget: all sections](#)

Rapporteur: Reimer Böge (PPE)

Vote on draft opinion and budgetary amendments

in favour	against	abstentions
24	5	4

Chair's activities:

- ✓ 2/9: Meeting New Zealand Ambassador
- ✓ 3/9 Meeting the Chair of Conference of Delegation Chairs
- ✓ 8/9 Meeting Slovak Ambassador on upcoming Slovak Presidency
- ✓ 14/9 Hearing in the Parliament of the German speaking community in Belgium
- ✓ 15/9 Meeting Belgian Ambassador
- ✓ 16/9 Meeting Ecuadorian Ministers of Trade and Social Development

Selected trade news

The EU on track to ratify the Trade Facilitation Agreement

On 9 September the European Parliament has given its consent to the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), thus enabling the Council complete ratification procedure on behalf of the EU ahead of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC10) in Nairobi in December 2015. The EU and its members would follow suit of 16th WTO members that formally accepted the TFA, including China, Hong Kong, Singapore, the United States, Mauritius, Malaysia, Japan, Australia, Botswana, Trinidad and Tobago, the Republic of Korea, Nicaragua, Niger, Belize, Switzerland and Chinese Taipei. The TFA, which seek to modern customs procedures in order to stimulate international trade, will enter into force once two-thirds (107 members) of the signatories have formally endorsed the Agreement.

[EP resolution](#)

[Briefing](#)

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

On-going investigations and measures in force

On 31 August 2015, there were 81 anti-dumping (which were subsequently extended in 29 cases) and 14 countervailing measures (which were subsequently extended in 1 case) in force. Furthermore, there were undertakings in force from 4 countries covering 5 products. At the end of August, 46 investigations were on-going.

New investigations initiated until 31 August 2015

25 investigations were initiated:

- 8 new investigations, of which 2 anti-subsidy
- 5 expiry reviews
- 5 interim reviews, of which 2 anti-subsidy
- 1 other review
- 6 anti-circumvention investigations

9 provisional measures were imposed, involving imports from 6 countries and covering 4 products; 4 definitive measures were imposed (of which 1 anti-subsidy), involving imports from 4 countries and covering 3 products. 16 reviews were concluded with confirmation of duty. 1 anti-absorption investigation was concluded with increase of duty and 3 anti-circumvention investigations were concluded with extension of duty. 2 new investigations and 3 reviews were terminated without the imposition of measures.

[Full report](#)

RECENT WTO DISPUTE SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENTS

Latest DSU developments as of 15 September 2015

At present, the EU is actively involved in 47 WTO disputes: in 23 of these cases the EU is the complaining party while in the remaining 24 cases the EU is on the defending side. These cases relate to the EU's relations with 11 of its trading partners (Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Indonesia, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, Thailand and the US).

Dispute settlement activities against the US continue to represent the majority of EU's active disputes. The EU is the complaining party in 6 of the disputes and the defendant in 5 cases (GMOs, hormones, bananas, poultry and aircraft). Regarding the substance of EU's offensive cases with the US, a major part concerns the misuse of trade defence instruments.

The EU's cases with China concern services, anti-dumping measures and raw materials on the offensive side and antidumping, poultry tariff and feed-in-tariff measures on the defensive side.

[Full report](#)

Publications

Latest publications from DG EXPO Policy Department

- [Study: Assessment of Trade Defence Policy decisions for 2014](#)
- [Analysis: The Shanghai stock market crash and the future of the Chinese economy](#)
- [Analysis: Role of wholesalers and distribution groups in international trade](#)

Upcoming publications from DG EXPO Policy Department

- Trade and investment in energy in the context of EU Common commercial policy
- Trade and economic relations with Japan
- Note on Sensitive issues in the TISA negotiations
- Trade in commodities, obstacles to trade and illegal trade
- Study comparing investment protection provisions in agreements such as CETA, Singapore, Energy charter, selected BITs by Member States
- Update note on TTIP - state of play

See [more](#)

Recent publications by the EP Research Service

[Ratifying the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement](#)

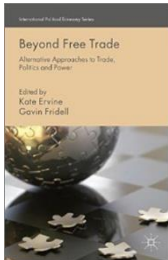
Wilhelm Schöllmann, EPRS Plenary At a Glance, 3 September 2015, 1 p.

Behind its rather formal title, the 'Protocol amending the Marrakesh Agreement establishing the WTO' deals with something very practical: modernising customs and other procedures so that international trade can operate more smoothly. Conclusion by the EU would be a big step forward towards enabling the agreement to come into force.

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

[Beyond Free Trade: Alternative Approaches to Trade, Politics and Power](#)

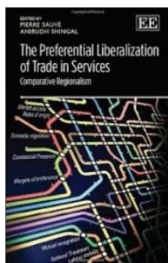
Kate Ervine, Gavin Fridell, Palgrave Macmillan, 320 p., 2015



"The world of trade policy and trade politics is changing rapidly, reflected in fundamental shifts in global trading patterns and relations of power associated with the 'rise of the South,' and with the burgeoning array of new trade projects, from fair trade to carbon emissions trading. Conventional economic trade theory has generally been unable to account for the forces driving these new directions in international trade, giving rise to growing interest among social scientists from a variety of disciplines in innovative methods for understanding the political, social, ecological, ideological, and economic dynamics of international trade."

[The Preferential Liberalization of Trade in Services: Comparative Regionalism](#)

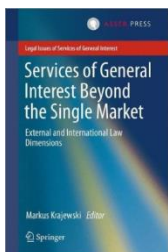
Pierre Sauve, Anirudh Shingal, Edward Elgar Publ., 480 p., 2014



"This book offers a comprehensive cross-regional comparison of approaches to preferential market opening and rule-making in the area of trade in services. The book examines the forces shaping the demand for preferences in services trade. It asks whether and how preferential advances differ from, go further than, and might ultimately inform the development of multilateral disciplines on services under the World Trade Organization's (WTO) General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)."

[Services of general interest beyond the single market. External and international law dimensions](#)

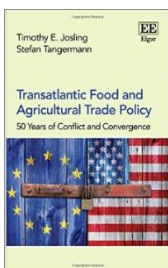
Markus Krajewski, T.M.C. Asser Press, 350 p., 2015



"This book addresses the impact of international trade and investment agreements on public services and the role these services play in EU external relations. Given the contentiousness of international trade and investment agreements as well as the EU's external policies, the issues discussed in this volume are timely and relevant and contribute to the ongoing debate about the future of services of general interest in the EU with fresh ideas and perspectives."

[Transatlantic Food and Agricultural Trade Policy: 50 Years of Conflict and Convergence](#)

T. E. Josling, Stefan Tangermann, Edward Elgar Publ., 328 p., 2015



"The book traces the past 50 years of transatlantic trade relations in the area of food and agricultural policy, from early skirmishes over farm policies to on-going conflicts over biotech foods and hormone use in animal rearing. The current TTIP negotiations have brought these regulatory differences to the negotiating table, with attempts by the EU and the US to make food regulations more compatible with an open transatlantic marketplace. The authors take an analytical approach to the causes of transatlantic conflict They explore in depth the pivotal role played by international rules, in the GATT and subsequently the WTO in disciplining farm price support "

For more information please visit intranet pages on [International Trade](#)

Contact: [Odile Maisee](#), Ext. 46201 / [Nils Hammarlund](#), Ext. 42871, EP Research Service

Coming soon

INTA/European Parliament:	
<p>Votes in INTA:</p> <p>22 September 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accession of Ecuador to the Trade Agreement concluded between the EU and its Member States and Colombia and Peru - Trade in certain goods which could be used for capital punishment, torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment - The role of the EU within the UN - how to better achieve EU foreign policy goals - Towards a European Energy Union 	<p>Trade files in plenary:</p> <p>October 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accession of Ecuador to the Trade Agreement concluded between the EU and its Member States and Colombia and Peru
<p>INTA meeting dates</p> <p>15 October 2015</p> <p>22 October 2015</p>	

European Union	World Trade Organisation																										
<p>Commission Work Program</p> <p>Key documents</p> <p>Trade negotiations</p> <p>EU-Japan FTA negotiations: 12th round 14 – 18/09, TOKYO, Japan</p> <p>EU-China Investment Agreement Negotiations: 7th Round 14 – 18/09, Beijing, China</p> <p>Launch of the EU-Tunisia DCFTA Negotiations 13/10, Tunis, Tunisia</p> <p>EU-TUNISIA DCFTA Negotiations: First round 19 – 23/10, Tunis, Tunisia</p> <p>TTIP negotiation: 11th round 11 19 – 23/10, United States, tbc</p> <p>TiSA - Trade in Services Agreement 05 – 09/10, Geneva, Switzerland 30 – 04/12, Geneva, Switzerland</p> <p>More information</p> <p>EU Trade Council meetings</p> <p>12 October 2015 26 October 2015 16 November 2015</p>	<p>WTO Events calendar 2015</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>28 September</td> <td>Dispute Settlement Body</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29 September</td> <td>Committee on Market Access</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30 Sept. - 2 Oct.</td> <td>WTO Public Forum</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 October</td> <td>Committee on Trade and Environment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 + 8 October</td> <td>Trade Policy Review Body - Cabo Verde</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 October</td> <td>Working Group on Trade and Transfer of Technology</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7 October</td> <td>Committee on Customs Valuation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12 - 13 October</td> <td>Workshop - Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14 October</td> <td>Committee of Participants on the Expansion of Trade in Information Technology Products</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15 - 16 October</td> <td>Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15 - 16 October</td> <td>Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19 + 21 October</td> <td>Trade Policy Review Body - Republic of Moldova</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 October</td> <td>Committee on Import Licensing</td> </tr> </table> <p>WTO</p>	28 September	Dispute Settlement Body	29 September	Committee on Market Access	30 Sept. - 2 Oct.	WTO Public Forum	6 October	Committee on Trade and Environment	6 + 8 October	Trade Policy Review Body - Cabo Verde	6 October	Working Group on Trade and Transfer of Technology	7 October	Committee on Customs Valuation	12 - 13 October	Workshop - Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures	14 October	Committee of Participants on the Expansion of Trade in Information Technology Products	15 - 16 October	Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures	15 - 16 October	Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights	19 + 21 October	Trade Policy Review Body - Republic of Moldova	20 October	Committee on Import Licensing
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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 Luxembourg 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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