European Parliament

2014-2019



Plenary sitting

B8-0141/2017

8.2.2017

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Commission

pursuant to Rule 123(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on the conclusion of the EU-Canada CETA (2017/2525(RSP))

Edouard Ferrand, Marcel de Graaff, Marine Le Pen, Georg Mayer, Franz Obermayr, Matteo Salvini, Harald Vilimsky on behalf of the ENF Group

RE\1116867EN.docx PE598.465v01-00

B8-0141/2017

European Parliament resolution on the conclusion of the EU-Canada CETA (2017/2525(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the precautionary principle as one of the pillars of common EU consumer and environmental protection as foreseen in Article 191(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),
- having regard to the opinion of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs for the Committee on International Trade on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada, of the one part, and the European Union and its Member States, of the other part¹,
- having regard to various initiatives taken by European and Canadian citizens against the Agreement,
- having regard to the statement by the Commission of 15 February 2017 on the conclusion of the EU-Canada CETA,
- having regard to Rule 123(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the negotiation rounds on CETA have, from their very beginning, been marked by a serious lack of transparency, making it difficult for the public and their democratically elected representatives to actively follow ongoing talks;
- B. whereas the forced implementation of Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) procedures remains a serious problem as it gives rise to a system of parallel justice, allowing powerful enterprises to attack one of the fundamental pillars of Member States' sovereignty: the rule of law;
- C. whereas the enforcement of the precautionary principle within the framework of CETA cannot be ensured;
- D. whereas the production costs of several branches of Canadian agriculture are significantly lower than those of European producers, such as producers operating within the field of stock breeding, thus threatening their very existence;
- E. whereas the institutions which should be set up according to the CETA agreement are of a supranational character and not subject to democratic control by EU citizens, as pointed out by the German Federal Constitutional Court in relation to the CETA Joint Committee;
- 1. Considers not to give its consent to CETA;

_

¹ EMPL_AD(2016)593983.

- 2. Strongly emphasises the need for public debate prior to the opening of any further trade negotiations, together with a clear definition of undisputable standards, of which the precautionary principle is but one example;
- 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the European Council, the Council, the Commission, the Committee of the Regions, the European Economic and Social Committee, the parliaments and governments of the Member States, and the parliament and government of Canada.