



2015/2105(INI)

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DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

for the Committee on International Trade

on a new forward-looking and innovative future strategy on trade and investment
(2015/2105(INI))

Rapporteur: Joachim Schuster

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs calls on the Committee on International Trade, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Emphasises that future trade agreements should take into account Parliament's resolutions on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership and on the Trade in Services Agreement, which remain valid for the future EU trade policy, in particular as far as the protection of public services is concerned;
2. Insists that sustainability impact assessments are conducted, allowing not only for an ex-ante but also for an ex-post evaluation;
3. Emphasises that, as a minimum, the legislation on the posting of workers and other national and EU labour legislation, as well as collective agreements, should be applicable to contractual service suppliers;
4. Rejects any further liberalisation of the GATS Mode 4 commitments;
5. Stresses that labour standards, including the eight fundamental International Labour Organisation conventions, must be equally implemented in all chapters of trade agreements, and that these agreements must include a revision clause allowing a party to leave the agreement or to suspend commitments in the event of infringements of labour and social standards;
6. Stresses that the Domestic Advisory Groups handling the infringements of social clauses of trade agreements must have sufficient financing and that they must consist of a balanced representation of labour and business organisations from civil society;
7. Emphasises the need to increase the staffing levels of, and the resources available to, Member States' labour inspectorates to allow for effective monitoring of labour standards;
8. Stresses the importance of binding measures for due diligence in the production chain, ensuring liability going beyond voluntary corporate social responsibility initiatives;
9. Stresses the need to increase efforts to unblock the reform of trade defence instruments.