Question for written answer P-013783/2013 to the Commission
Rule 117
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Subject: Impact of the TTIP on European SMEs

An analysis of EU-US bilateral trade has shown that it consists essentially of intra-branch trade and is concentrated in four main sectors: machinery and equipment, transport equipment, chemicals and electronic products.

Given that:
- The top 1% of US exporting companies accounts for 82% of exports,
- These are large companies, on average larger than European companies (large US companies employ 1 700 workers on average compared to 1 000 for European companies),
- They are particularly strongly represented in the four above-mentioned sectors,
- European SMEs have not increased their exports to the US since the year 2 000.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

Is there not a risk that the entry into force of the TTIP may endanger the realisation of the Commission’s ambition to increase the percentage of European SMEs that export beyond the internal market from 13% to 25%? More generally, will it not weaken the fabric of SMEs (whether or not they export)?

What are the results of the impact analyses on this issue? Does it have available an analysis distinguishing between Member States, sectors, etc.?

(Sources: DG Enterprise and Industry, Opportunities for the Internationalisation of European SMEs, 2011; United States International Trade Commission Investigation, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises: Characteristics and Performance, 2010)