
From: Luisa Santos [<mailto:l.santos@businessseurope.eu>]

Sent: 01 June 2015 15:32

Cc:

Subject: BUSINESSEUROPE message on TTIP resolution

Dear Honourable Member of the European Parliament,

We welcome the strong engagement and active role the European Parliament is taking in the TTIP negotiations. We believe this is an important step towards making the negotiation process more transparent, inclusive and democratic.

In view of the upcoming vote in plenary, we would like to share with you BUSINESSEUROPE's assessment of the draft EP resolution on the negotiations for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).

European business welcomes that the draft resolution gives a positive message towards the conclusion of an ambitious trade and investment agreement with the US. However, there are some elements that in our view can negatively impact the outcome of the negotiations, and at this crucial point in time, this can give very wrong signs.

We are concerned about the request to exclude public services - irrespective of how they are provided and funded - as the EU should not put in question its own multilateral commitments in the WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services.

Furthermore, we warn against overloading EU's trade agenda with sustainability objectives that are unachievable and request that efficient and reliable instruments to enforce investors' rights are put in place.

However, we welcome the resolution's overall support for the transatlantic agreement and call on you to endorse the compromise reached by INTA last week. This is the golden opportunity for the European Parliament to give a strong signal and steer negotiations in favour of European interests. We remain at your disposal for any further information concerning this topic.

Yours Sincerely,

(sent on behalf of)

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Dear Mr Pittella

Dear honourable members of the Socialists & Democrats Group,

In view of next week's plenary vote on the TTIP resolution, we call on you to give your support to the compromise reached within the INTA Committee, especially on investment protection.

The wording adopted is in our opinion balanced and allowed a wide majority of INTA Members to vote in favour of a resolution that reaffirms the guiding role of the European Parliament in the most important bilateral trade negotiation the EU is conducting, at a time where developments at WTO level are not showing enough progress.

Destroying the compromise would seriously endanger the possibility for the European Parliament to have a say and give momentum to the negotiations in a crucial time just before the US Presidential Elections. This would be a missed opportunity for the whole European Union, would weaken the negotiating position of the Commission and ultimately undermine a strong TTIP for Europe.

In light of the above, considering all the efforts put in so far by Members of the Parliament and the fact that none of the opinion-giving Committees explicitly asked at this stage for the exclusion of ISDS, we urge you to give your favourable vote to the INTA compromise next week.

Yours sincerely,

Markus Beyrer

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