



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

Committee on Development

2014/2228(INI)

24.2.2015

OPINION

of the Committee on Development

for the Committee on International Trade

on recommendations to the European Commission on the negotiations for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)
(2014/2228(INI))

Rapporteur: Arne Lietz

PA_NonLeg

SUGGESTIONS

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

1. Asks the Commission to respect in trade relations Article 208 of the Lisbon Treaty and to include in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) an explicit reference to development policy as one of the legitimate public policy objectives, as well as to the principle of policy coherence for development, requiring that the objectives of development cooperation be taken into account in policies that are likely to affect developing countries;
2. Asks the Commission to bear in mind that, given the size and scope of the transatlantic economy, the implications of TTIP will go far beyond the bilateral relationships and will undoubtedly impact on developing countries, as this mega-trade deal is likely to shape global trade rules and set new standards; requests the Commission to commission an independent study of TTIP's impact on developing countries and on the future sustainable development goals, once the provisions of TTIP are clearer, as the wording of the negotiating mandate is so general that the possible spillover effect on developing countries is still difficult to predict;
3. Asks the Commission to take into account that the effect of TTIP on developing countries will vary depending on their economic structure and current trade relations; also calls on the Commission to take into account the fact that the majority of developing countries benefit from some degree of tariff preferences from the EU and the US; invites the Commission to intensify the dialogue with developing countries in order to assess the impact of TTIP and to consider the likely risk of preference erosion and accompanying trade and investment diversion for some developing countries;
4. Asks the Commission to highlight in its dialogue with developing countries the potential of TTIP to create new opportunities for developing countries in global trade, resulting from increased growth and demand for export goods in both the EU and the US and lower trade costs arising from the need to adapt to a single set of rules and standards in order to have access to both markets; recommends to the Commission that it act to alleviate the cost of compliance (especially for SMEs) and support initiatives to foster developing countries' inclusion in global value chains through suitable development instruments;
5. Asks the Commission to provide developing countries with political support and technical assistance in pursuing stronger regional integration and trading areas, and to move towards a fairer approach in its negotiations of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) which are aimed at setting up a secure framework for the flow of trade and investment between the EU and the ACP countries;
6. Urges the Commission to ensure that TTIP will not reduce the significance of the WTO and will contribute to an equitable and sustainable world trading system while not sidelining important issues for developing countries such as food security, agricultural subsidies and climate change mitigation, by stepping up efforts to advance in democratic multilateral forums, notably the WTO, as the EU's preferential option, and to successfully

conclude the negotiations of the Doha Round, as this is the best way to achieve a trading system that is inclusive and operates for the benefit of all; also asks the Commission to ensure that the TTIP's third pillar respects multilateral rules whereby the WTO foresees exceptions for developing countries, especially with regard to the possibility of export restrictions in the area of energy and access to raw materials;

7. Requests the Commission to promote within the negotiations the highest global standards on human rights, ILO standards, decent work, environmental protection, universal access to quality public services, social protection, public and universal health coverage, universal access to medicines, and food and product safety; encourages the EU to position itself as the defender of the interests of developing countries;
8. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to increase the transparency and democratic nature of the negotiations by enhancing dialogue with civil society and other stakeholders.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	24.2.2015
Result of final vote	+: 16 -: 7 0: 1
Members present for the final vote	Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea, Ignazio Corrao, Nathan Gill, Enrique Guerrero Salom, Maria Heubuch, Hans Jansen, Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio, Arne Lietz, Linda McAvan, Norbert Neuser, Maurice Ponga, Cristian Dan Preda, Lola Sánchez Caldentey, Elly Schlein, György Schöpflin, Pedro Silva Pereira, Davor Ivo Stier, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Rainer Wieland, Anna Záborská
Substitutes present for the final vote	Marina Albiol Guzmán, Juan Fernando López Aguilar, Judith Sargentini
Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote	Kosma Złotowski