



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

EUROPEAN AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Malmström
European Commissioner for Trade
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
1049 Brussels
Belgium

The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Direct Tel: 0131-348-5234
(RNID Typetalk calls welcome)
Fax: 0131-348-5088
(Central) Textphone: 0131-348-5415
Email: europe@scottish.parliament.uk

23 March 2015

Dear Commissioner Malmström,

European and External Relations Committee report on the implications of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership for Scotland

I am writing to invite you to respond to the conclusions and recommendations reached by the Scottish Parliament's European and External Relations Committee in its recently published report on the implications of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership for Scotland.

I would also like to repeat my thanks to your staff for their constructive and helpful engagement with the Committee.

The Committee's full report is available at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/87794.aspx>

In particular, I would be grateful if you could respond to the following points raised in the Committee's report:

Paragraphs 3 and 4 – The Committee calls on the European Commission to make as much information as possible available during the remaining course of the negotiations on TTIP.

Paragraph 6 – The Committee calls on the European Commission to conduct future trade negotiations with a high degree of transparency to ensure that public confidence is maintained in relation to the process of concluding agreements.

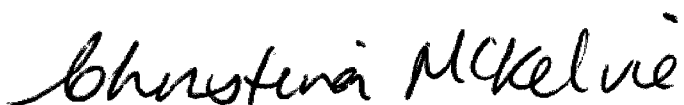
Paragraphs 14-16 – The Committee calls on the UK Government and the European Commission to consider the Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Constitution and Economy’s suggestion that a “double lock” be developed to secure public trust and confidence in the TTIP negotiations in relation to public services.

Paragraph 18 – The Committee concludes that its inquiry has demonstrated how distant people and organisations in Scotland can feel from the decisions that are taken in Brussels. It notes that decisions relating to TTIP have to permeate layers of government: from the European Commission to the UK as the Member State, and from the UK Government to the Scottish Government. I would therefore welcome your thoughts on how the European Commission can engage more closely on issues such as TTIP.

In addition, please note that the Committee has agreed to monitor the issues of improved public services, regulatory coherence and ISDS.

I look forward to receiving a response from you on the Committee’s report.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christina McKelvie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christina McKelvie
Convener
European and External Relations Committee