

TTIP : environmental aspects

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The [Final Report](#) by the High Level Working Group on Jobs and Growth from February 2013 suggested that the work already done in chapters concerning environmental protection in EU and in US trade agreements should be taken into account in the forthcoming trade negotiations. In a [resolution](#) from 23 May 2013 on EU trade and investment negotiations with the US, the European Parliament, while recognising the need to reach an agreement on environmental protection standards, insisted on preserving its high environmental ambitions. The European Commission's Directorate General for Trade has published several position papers on these issues, including " [Trade and sustainable development](#) " underlining that "Sustainable development aims at bringing about economic prosperity through and with a high level of environmental protection and social equity and cohesion" and " [Motor vehicles](#) ", which was [criticised](#) by some NGOs. The EU's position paper on [chemicals](#) was published in May 2014, discussing possible ways of cooperation and regulation. In November the Commission Directorate-General for Trade published a [non-paper](#) aimed to further examine "possibilities for cooperative interactions" in relation to REACH and CLP (Classification, Labelling and Packaging). This was in addition to its [Outline for provisions on chemicals](#) , published in September.

The Office Of The United States Trade Representative (USTR) in: U.S. Objectives, [U.S. Benefits](#) in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership: A Detailed View, published in March 2014, stated that US seeks "to obtain, consistent with U.S. priorities and objectives, appropriate commitments by the EU to protect the environment, including conserving natural resources, and to effectively enforce environmental laws, and seek opportunities to address environmental issues of mutual interest". In June 2014 USTR published a [Request for Comments](#) concerning an environmental review of the proposed Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership Agreement.

Environmental NGOs have been [critical](#) of the US adding imports of oil (from the US) to discussions, considering this a " climate denial, pure and simple" and argue that this would [lower](#) European environmental safeguards.

In a European Parliament [debate](#) on 15 July 2014, the Trade Commissioner reiterated that TTIP should not lower standards in areas such as environmental protection, consumer protection or the rights of workers in Europe, and that "a US multinational will not be able to successfully sue for damages for lost future profit just because a parliament introduces a new law with the legitimate aim of protecting the environment or public health", an issue that had been raised by several speakers. In a [statement](#) at the end of the sixth round of negotiation on 18 July 2014, the EU's Chief TTIP Negotiator, Ignacio Garcia Bercero, underlined that "nothing will be done which could lower or endanger the protection of the environment". On 6 November 2015, DG Trade published EU's initial proposal for legal text on " [Trade and Sustainable Development](#) " in TTIP (Section III - Trade and Sustainable Development – Environmental aspects).

Overviews

[ENVI Relevant Legislative Areas of the EU-US Trade and Investment Partnership Negotiations \(TTIP\)](#) / Dagmara Stoerring, Policy Department A on Economy and Scientific Policy, 05-02-2015

This leaflet presents the key findings of the 2014 study:

[ENVI Relevant Legislative Areas of the EU-US Trade and Investment Partnership Negotiations \(TTIP\)](#) / BIO by Deloitte & Institute for European Environmental Policy, 05-11-2014

This study, prepared by Policy Department A, aims to support Members of the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) in monitoring on-going negotiations for a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). It analyses the main differences between EU and US legislation in eight areas, namely: human medicines and medical devices, cosmetics, food and nutrition, sanitary and phyto-sanitary, nanomaterials, cloning, raw materials and energy, and motor vehicles. Existing collaboration between the EU and US, progress already achieved in the negotiations and potential future developments in these areas are also addressed.

[Legal Implications of TTIP for the Acquis Communautaire in ENVI Relevant Sectors](#) / Ecologic institute & Lorenzo Vicario, Policy Department A: Economic and Scientific Policy, October 2013

This study discusses the potential impact of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership agreement on the EU acquis in the areas of environment and food safety. It recommends, in particular, that the European Parliament pay very close attention to the precise wording of provisions regarding the environment, food safety, and investment set out in the final text to ensure that both parties are able to maintain the environmental and consumer protection standards they deem appropriate, as provided for in the European Commission's negotiating mandate. EurActiv has published (February 2014) an overview: [TTIP 'challenged' by environmental critics](#)

Analysis

[A Brave New Transatlantic Partnership: the social & environmental consequences of the proposed EU-US trade deal / Corporate Europe Observatory \(CEO\), October 4th 2013](#)

As the second round of negotiations on the EU-US trade agreement kick off in Brussels next week, a new report published by members of the Seattle to Brussels Network (S2B), including CEO, reveals the true human and environmental costs of the proposed deal. The report shows that the promises of job creation and growth are illusions; and that the real impetus behind a deal comes from major EU and US corporations that have joined forces to remove as many labour, health and environmental standards as possible in a devastating race to the bottom.

[The Transatlantic Free Trade Agreement : What's at Stake for Communities and the Environment / The Sierra Club, Juni 2013](#)

U.S. - EU Regulatory Differences - Environment and Climate Change - Food Safety and Agriculture - Chemical Safety - Increasing Natural Gas Exports and Fracking

[The New Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership \(TTIP\): A Focus on the Environment / R. Andreas Kraemer, Christiane Gerstetter, Ecologic Institute, 13 June 2013](#)

Stakeholder views

German Federal Ministry of Environment

[Bedenken gegen TTIP Internes Papier zeigt Berlins Skepsis zum Freihandelsabkommen / von Alexander Hagelüken, Süddeutsche Zeitung, 27. Februar 2014](#)

Zu massiver Einfluss der USA, Verwässerung von Standards im Umwelt- und Verbraucherschutz: Ein internes Papier zeigt, wie groß die Skepsis gegenüber dem Transatlantik-Freihandelsabkommen in der Bundesregierung ist.

[Environmental risks of the Trans-Atlantic Trade & Investment Partnership / House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee, Ninth Report of Session 2014-15, 4 March 2015](#)

The extent to which TTIP potentially presents risks for environmental safeguards depends on the detail of the deal that is struck, but there is not currently the transparency needed around the negotiations to be able to reach a view on whether such risks will be dealt with. EU member states, including the UK, will need to be more closely involved in the Environmental risks of the Trans-Atlantic Trade & Investment Partnership negotiations from now on, and engage in turn with environmental groups and agencies, to ensure that environmental issues are adequately considered.

United States Government Accountability Office GAO

[Comparison of U.S. and Recently Enacted European Union Approaches to Protect against the Risks of Toxic Chemicals , August 2007](#)

'GAO was asked to review the approaches used under TSCA and REACH for (1) requiring chemical companies to develop information on chemicals' effects, (2) controlling risks from chemicals, and (3) making information on chemicals available to the public. To review these issues, GAO analyzed applicable U.S. and EU laws and regulations and interviewed U.S. and EU officials, industry representatives, and environmental advocacy organizations.'

US Consumer Product Safety Commission

The U.S. [Consumer Product Safety Commission](#) (CPSC) is an independent federal regulatory agency that was created in 1972 by Congress in the [Consumer Product Safety Act](#) . In that law, Congress directed the Commission to "protect the public against unreasonable risks of injuries and deaths associated with consumer products." The CPSC has jurisdiction over about 15,000 types of consumer products and is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard or can injure children

[The U.S.-EU Beef Hormone Dispute](#), December 6, 2010

Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)

[Toward a Toxic Partnership: A critique of the EU position on chemicals under the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership \(TTIP\) Agreement with the US , July 2014](#)

Friends of Earth

[TTIP bad for agriculture, health and the environment says U.S. and EU civil society / 10 July 2014](#)

[No fracking way , 6 March 2014](#)

This briefing reveals how a major trade deal currently being negotiated between the European Union and the United States, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, threatens the power of governments to protect communities, citizens and the environment from risky new technologies such as fracking

Green 10

The limited information emerging from the ongoing [Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership \(TTIP\)](#) negotiations reveals the risk that this transatlantic project will reverse recent environmental and social achievements in Europe, and make future environmental and social progress more difficult on both sides of the North Atlantic

Public Citizen

[TAFTA as Monsanto's Plan B: A Backdoor to Genetically Modified Food , 2013](#)

European and U.S. agribusiness corporations, in their formal demands issued to TAFTA negotiators, have been remarkably candid in naming the specific U.S. and EU GMO regulations that they would like to see dismantled via TAFTA

[TAFTA Studies Project Tiny Economic Gains, Ignore Major Costs from Gutting Environmental, Health, Financial and Other Safeguards , 2013](#)

That is why studies focused on the impact of TAFTA's possible tariff reduction have produced meager estimates of any economic impact.

Sierra Club

A [leaked European Union trade document](#) , published today by the [Washington Post](#) , reveals the dangers of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership for communities and our climate.

The document, similar to a previously leaked EU proposal for a chapter on energy which I wrote about [here](#) , makes it clear that the EU is looking to use this secretly negotiated trade pact as a back-door channel to get automatic, unfettered access to U.S. fracked gas and oil

US National Caucus of Environmental Legislators (NCEL)

[US legislators: TTIP to weaken state-level environmental protection](#)

The proposed EU-US free trade agreement could weaken US state and local governments' ability to pass environmental legislation, according to Sharon Treat, NCEL

WWF

[Position On the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership](#) , 1 October 2014

[Position On specific elements of a High-Standard Environment Agreement in TTIP](#) , 1 October 2014

More information

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