



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Committee on Development

2014/2228(INI)

6.1.2015

DRAFT 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

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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:

- A. Stresses that EU trade and development policies are interlinked and that Article 208 of the Lisbon Treaty establishes 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;
- B. Notes that, although the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiation mandate is now public, its wording is so general that its content and possible spillover effects on developing countries are still not known; calls for a thorough analysis, when TTIP provisions are clearer, of its likely impact on low income countries and the future sustainable development goals;
- C. Is of the opinion that the effect of the TTIP on developing countries will vary depending on their economic structure and current trade relations; sees, however, the potential serious risk of diminished market access and resulting trade diversion for some countries;
- D. Stresses that the majority of developing countries benefit from some degree of tariff preferences from the EU and the USA, with margins likely to be significantly affected by the TTIP; underlines that adaptation to new sets of norms and standards is not necessarily negative, but that it is essential to alleviate the cost of compliance (especially for SMEs);
- E. Is worried that the TTIP and other mega trade deals are likely to reshape global trade rules and set new standards, while also being discriminatory, by excluding some 130 countries from the negotiations and risking sidelining important issues for developing countries such as food security, agricultural subsidies and climate change mitigation; urges the Commission to step up efforts to advance in multilateral fora and overcome the current Doha Round stalemate;
- F. Sees, however, the potential of the TTIP to promote the highest global standards of this century on decent work, environmental protection, and food and product safety.