



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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*Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs*

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**2014/2228(INI)**

3.2.2015

## **DRAFT OPINION**

of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

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: Jeppe Kofod

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## SUGGESTIONS

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

1. Addresses the following recommendations to the Commission:
  - a. take immediate action to ensure that a comprehensive and ambitious agreement is reached on the TTIP enhancing fair competition on both sides of the Atlantic;
  - b. take immediate action to ensure that free and fair competition on both sides of the Atlantic, as well as market access, is addressed on the basis of the highest standards possible within the existing levels of protection, especially within areas such as health and safety, consumer, labour and environmental legislation;
  - c. take immediate action to include restrictions on state aid in the agreement; propose greater transparency within state aid rules and within the allocation of state aid;
  - d. take immediate action to ensure that market access negotiations on financial services are combined with upward convergence in financial regulation; support high international standards in on-going cooperation efforts in other international fora;
  - e. take immediate action to ensure that aggressive tax planning, and distortion of competition by e.g. moving of headquarters across the Atlantic to obtain competition-distorting conditions, are addressed;
  - f. take immediate action to ensure that systematic movement of capital across the Atlantic, in order to avoid tax payments in the country of production and/or sale of goods or services, is addressed within the TTIP;
  - g. take immediate action to ensure reciprocal market access for European companies to public contracts in the United States; underlines that an imbalance of market access to public contracts constitutes unfair competition;
  - h. take immediate proactive measures against American protectionism, and address legislation that hinders European market access to the United States, such as Buy American, Buy America and the American Job Act;
  - i. propose the introduction of a national court systems-first principle, to be supplemented with mediation and intergovernmental dispute mechanisms in legal disputes in order to ensure easier access and lower litigation costs than those offered by current ISDS-mechanisms, benefitting especially SMEs (having fewer resources available than large corporations), thus creating more equal competition conditions; stress that any and all dispute mechanisms set in place within the TTIP-framework must uphold full transparency and be subject to democratic principles and scrutiny;
  - j. acknowledge the importance of state-owned enterprises for certain crucial services;

- k. stress the need to uphold the EU's tradition for organising its public services, and call for an exclusion of public services from the agreement;
- l. propose that there should be no obligation in TTIP to expose sensitive sectors to competition.