

**72nd Interparliamentary Meeting
Transatlantic Legislators Dialogue
European Parliament- United States House of Representatives**

**Copenhagen, 9-10 June 2012 and
Strasbourg, 11 June 2012**

JOINT STATEMENT

- 11 June 2012 -

We, the Members of the European Parliament and the United States House of Representatives, held our 72nd Interparliamentary meeting (Transatlantic Legislators Dialogue) in Copenhagen, Denmark, and during the the European Parliament part session in Strasbourg, from 9 to 11 June 2012. Based upon our priorities, and current challenges the transatlantic partners face, we discussed in particular further possible coordinated progress on economic growth and jobs, as well as a common EU-US approach to global financial and economic governance. We also discussed developments in transport security and continued discussions on cyber security, an increasingly important issue. In the final TLD session hosted by the European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs we examined the EU-US cooperation in foreign policy on approaches towards the Middle East and also concerning economic and trade relations with Latin America. Our delegations also exchanged views with High Representative Catherine Ashton on these issues. We reasserted the importance of regular and open discussion and agreed to report back to our parent bodies.

Transatlantic Political and Economic Challenges

We reiterated the importance of the High Level Working Group on Jobs and Growth, created during the November 28, 2011 EU-US summit in Washington, DC. We discussed the need for ambitious and tangible steps to stimulate trade and investment between the EU and the US, the possible prospects for a comprehensive trade agreement, and also a broader agenda supporting drivers for growth. We look forward to the Group's interim report announced by our governments, due at the end of June 2012. We formally agreed that the European Commission and the US Administration come to present the final result of the Group's work to our next meeting in December 2012. We also supported work on coordination and, where possible, standardisation, carried out in the framework of the Transatlantic Economic Council (TEC) and agreed that deepening our economic relationship will increase our influence on global standards. We noted the Camp David Declaration following the G8 Summit of 18-19 May 2012 and welcomed its accent on the importance of growth for our economies and of fiscal responsibility. As legislators, we strongly agree with this stance, and care to express the great importance we attach to the G8 process.

Global Financial and Economic Governance

We tackled together the issues of financial market regulatory reform, global macroeconomic governance and sovereign debt management. We noted that the long-term sustainability of public finances is essential to stability and growth. We recognise the efforts which the EU Member States and the US are making to bring about fiscal responsibility. This needs to be linked with structural reforms and investments to regain competitiveness and economic stability. We recognised the global character of the crisis and its effects, and therefore emphasised the importance of coordinated action. We agreed that the crisis requires a strong and coordinated transatlantic policy response, in order to promote financial stability, economic growth, to reduce budget deficits and to create jobs.

We discussed the role of international cooperation in financial regulation and supervision, including improved crisis prevention and management, and agreed that the EU and the US should cooperate on the reform of international financial institutions. We reaffirm the paramount importance of a system of supervision and regulation of financial markets, which must serve the wider economy by providing credit and liquidity for businesses and citizens. We support close cooperation between the EU and the US on maintaining viable international banking services, protecting the taxpayer from bearing the costs of banking resolutions, and providing effective standards for sound corporate governance.

Transport Security

We confirmed the importance of aviation security in all its aspects and of the entry into force of the EU-US Agreement on Passenger Name Record (PNR). We believe that this PNR Agreement provides a clear legal framework under which to exchange information for the purpose of combating terrorism and serious transnational crime, while respecting fundamental rights of our citizens. We welcome the use of technology for the screening of passengers and luggage, in particular liquids, aerosols and gels, while conscious of the need to respect personal privacy. We are aware of the existence of different technologies, as well as different assessments of their effectiveness and effects on health. We acknowledge that currently our respective administrations are considering the issue of whether it is possible to replace a ban on the carrying of liquids on board aircraft by the use of appropriate screening technology.

We welcome that the U.S. and the European Union have agreed to recognise each other's security procedures for cargo travelling on passenger planes as from 1 June 2012. We also welcome the adoption of the "Safe Traders' Agreement" adopted in Washington on 4 May 2012, by which our companies will save money and time through expedited customs authorisation. We note that the US has recently extended the date of implementation for the 100% scanning of cargo containers by two years until 1 July 2014. We look forward to viable and mutually acceptable solutions for the

issue of container scanning, taking into account risk-oriented approaches. We discussed approaches for improvement of supply chain security, noting the release of the "National Strategy for Global Supply Chain Security" by the US Administration in January 2012.

Cyber security

We discussed the issue of cyber security and emphasized the importance of transatlantic cooperation to protect our networks against cyberattacks. We discussed the 2001 Budapest Convention on cybercrime, and the usefulness of ratification by all signatories to it. We encouraged European and American agencies such as ENISA (European Network and Information Society Agency) and NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) to work closely together to reach the common aim of a secure cyber space. We also welcomed the creation of the EU-US Working Group on cybersecurity and cybercrime in December 2010, which is an important milestone in bringing key actors and agencies on both EU and US sides together.

We also examined the importance of transatlantic legislative dialogue on cybersecurity, in particular with regard to protection of critical infrastructure and also to protection of data and intellectual property of businesses operating on both sides of the Atlantic, and strengthen cooperation between legislators when working on cyber security documents and legislative acts. In this context we addressed the question of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs). Most importantly we looked into ways to encourage businesses to share information on cyberthreats with the public sector. We debated how international cooperation on PPPs could go forward, including a certain level of standardisation in this field. We also discussed the potential for transatlantic cooperation on updating the EU and the US criminal law rules with regard to cybercrime.

We welcomed the creation of the European Cybercrime Centre at Europol headquarters, which will be operational by 2013. We see this as an opportunity to foster cooperation between Europol and the US Department of Homeland Security and the FBI, as well as with the CERTs (Computer Emergency Response Teams) of European Member States. This cooperation could lead to a more coordinated and targeted approach when pursuing and prosecuting perpetrators of cyber attacks. We hope that these efforts will encourage businesses that have suffered cyber attacks to report them in a timely manner to the competent authorities, so that law enforcement on cybersecurity can be more efficient. Finally we expect that the EU and the US will work together for aligning their cyber security strategies, and engage in a dialogue on standardisation.

Foreign relations


We are shocked and condemn in the strongest possible way the brutal killing of thousands of Syrian civilians by Bashar Al Assad and his regime. We support the close cooperation between the US and the EU on Syria, including on sanctions against the regime. In light of the latest developments however we called upon the US and the EU to step up their efforts and lead the international community in its pressure for Assad's departure and in support of a peaceful and political transition in Syria. We also pointed to the urgently needed reinforcement of humanitarian assistance to the Syrian people and to refugees in neighbouring countries.

We continue to be seriously concerned about the threat posed by Iranian nuclear ambitions and its support for international terrorism. We discussed the negotiations of UN Security Council Permanent Members and Germany, led by the EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Iranian nuclear programme, and commended the EU and the US for its close cooperation, including on tightening the bilateral and multilateral sanctions regime against Iran. We agreed that it is of vital importance for both partners that Iran fully and verifiably abandons its efforts to acquire nuclear weapons capability.

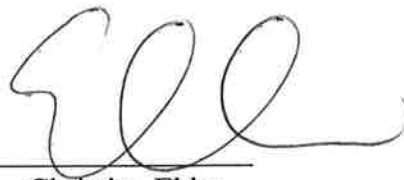
We deplored the decision taken by the Government of Argentina to expropriate the property of foreign investors, which seriously violates the principles of free market economy and contradicts the spirit of the G20 to which Argentine committed. We agreed on the importance of constructive, responsible involvement of Latin American countries in global economic governance, which however has to be based on respect for international law, international norms of economic relations and on protection of property and investments. We urged the EU and the US to cooperate and explore all possible diplomatic avenues to defend the rights of foreign investors in Latin American countries, and all over the globe.

Conclusion

In sum, our Members found common ground on the issues discussed, and several options for progress. Our discussions resulted in a renewed commitment for the TLD and the issue-oriented approach we have launched at the 70th TLD meeting in Budapest in June 2011. We decided to continue our work on the two issues of Financial markets and stability and Transport security, as well as on the new topic of cybersecurity. We welcome the participation of Members who are involved in these issues in the respective responsible committees of the House of Representatives and the European Parliament. By bringing together those who work on legislation and policies in these fields, we want to further develop a transatlantic working method which will be to the benefit of both the US and the EU. In such spirit, we look forward to the 73rd meeting of the TLD, which will take place in the United States by the end of 2012.



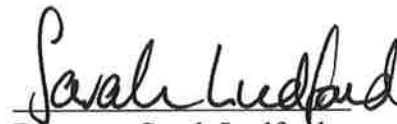
Cliff Stearns
Co-Chairman
US Delegation



Christian Ehler
Co-Chairman
EU Delegation



Loretta Sanchez
Vice-Chair
US Delegation



Baroness Sarah Ludford
Vice-Chair
EU Delegation