

MURANYI Erika

From: GILL Neena
Sent: 31 October 2014 14:24
To: Consultation-OI-10-2014
Subject: [EOWEB] Public Consultation TTIP
Attachments: Neena Gill MEP Public Consultation TTIP.docx

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Sender

Sender Neena Gill [REDACTED]
To Public consultation OI/10/2014
Date Friday, October 31, 2014 2:23:37 PM CET

Your data

Part 1 - Contact information

First name	Neena
Surname	Gill
Gender	Female
E-mail address	[REDACTED]

Language you would like to receive an answer i

Part 2 - Data

To Public consultation OI/10/2014
Subject Public Consultation TTIP
Contribution Neena Gill MEP to public consultation on TTIP

1. Please give us your views on what concrete measures the Commission could take to make the TTIP negotiations more transparent. Where, specifically, do you see room for improvement?

Content

- The Commission should make negotiating documents, including those of the USA, available to the European Parliament and the Council at the earliest possible stage and at regular intervals, clearly outlining dates at which documents are expected to become available. The Commission should grant all members of the INTA and AFET committees and the Delegation for Relations with the US access to the TTIP reading room, rather than restricting access to a limited number of INTA Committee Members. Disclosed info should include:

- The initial position papers tabled by both sides and any further documents explaining positions on each chapter of negotiations
- The final versions of individual chapters
- All written communications and minutes of meetings on TTIP between the European Commission and other European institutions
- All written communications and minutes of meetings on TTIP between the European Commission

and third parties

- The Commission should moreover make fundamental documents available to the public and provide detailed explanations of their content. Claims that the disclosure of material requested by the public could be detrimental to the negotiating process should be substantially corroborated by the Commission. The Commission should establish a formal follow up system for civil society groups, as has been proposed by outgoing Trade Commissioner De Gucht. An overview of disclosed documents including details on the recipients should moreover be made publicly available, to allow the public to scrutinize the dissemination of information and ensure that different types of stakeholders (eg. public – private) have equal access to information.

- Allegations to the effect that the TTIP Advisory Panel does not constitute a balanced representation of interests, does not enjoy sufficient and timely access to the information it requires to carry out its role, and is not regularly consulted by the Commission should be thoroughly investigated. In case such claims turn out to be truthful, the Commission should urgently bring forward clear proposals on how it intends to address these issues.

2. Please provide examples of best practice that you have encountered in this area (for example, in particular Commission Directorates-General or other international organisations) that you believe could be applied throughout the Commission.

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3. Please explain how, in your view, greater transparency might affect the outcome of the negotiations.

Providing stakeholders the possibility to base their judgment of negotiations on facts instead of rumors will enable them to impact the final form of the agreement in a meaningful way, increasing the likelihood that the European and – in case it concerns a mixed agreement – national parliaments will ultimately be able to give their consent to TTIP. If a sufficient degree of transparency is not provided, TTIP risks being subjected to the fate of ACTA, depriving EU citizens of the opportunity to benefit from the many potential positive effects of a comprehensive transatlantic trade and investment partnership.

Contribution Neena Gill MEP to public consultation on TTIP

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