

Statement

SUPPORT FOR THE TRANSATLANTIC TRADE AND INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP

Tallinn, 9 September 2016

Chairpersons of the Committees on European Union Affairs of the National Parliaments of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland

- recognise the need for a comprehensive and balanced free trade agreement between the European Union and the United States of America and therefore express support for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership;
- emphasize that only an ambitious agreement taking into account both the individual interests of every Member State and that of the European Union as a whole will help increase our international competitiveness as well as create economic growth, jobs and benefits for European consumers;
- acknowledge the role of the European Commission in the negotiations with the United States of America and call on the European Commission to continue a negotiation strategy that will guarantee an equal and just access to the markets of the United States of America and the European Union for businesses and individual consumers;
- emphasise the geopolitical importance of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership in the changed security environment with the agreement being another practical example of an excellent transatlantic cooperation and a confirmation of the allied security relations of the European Union and the United States of America;
- continue to support the transparency policy of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership negotiations implemented by the European Commission and remind that only transparent negotiations on both sides of the Atlantic will create more understanding and support for the agreement;
- stress the importance of cooperation with national parliaments that play a decisive role in ratifying the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership as a mixed agreement;
- acknowledge the great public interest in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership and encourage governments across the European Union to react to the concerns of the public by explaining the future impact of the agreement on the European economy;
- emphasize the crucial role that national parliaments, as bodies close to the citizens, can play in explaining the importance of the agreement to the public.

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Chairman of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Estonian Parliament

Lolita Čigāne

Chairperson of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Latvian Parliament

Gediminas Kirkilas

Chairman of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Lithuanian Parliament

Konrad Głębocki

Vicechair of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland

Piotr Wach

Member of the Foreign and European Union Affairs Committee of the Senate of the Republic of Poland