



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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*Committee on Employment and Social Affairs*

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**2014/2228(INI)**

11.2.2015

## **DRAFT OPINION**

of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

for the Committee on International Trade

on ‘Recommendations on the negotiations for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)’  
(2014/2228(INI))

Rapporteur: Marian Harkin

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## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Employment and Social 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, in the context of the ongoing negotiations on TTIP, the following recommendations to the Commission:
  - (i) to ensure that TTIP will make a significant positive contribution to creating more and better jobs and set ambitious global trade standards for sustainable development and labour;
  - (ii) to ensure that TTIP includes comprehensive provisions on labour laws and policies that are consistent with the core ILO Conventions and the Decent Work Agenda, with a commitment to promote higher standards and, furthermore, to ensure that where disputes arise labour provisions will have a conditional dimension;
  - (iii) to ensure that the horizontal dimensions of labour and social provisions are recognised and fully integrated into all relevant operational parts of the agreement to ensure a coherent and comprehensive approach to trade and sustainable development;
  - (iv) to ensure that civil society can make a meaningful contribution to implementing relevant TTIP provisions;
  - (v) to take immediate steps to safeguard the right of EU governments to legislate, organise, set quality and safety standards for, manage and regulate public services;
  - (vi) to ensure that the specific challenges faced by SMEs are fully taken into account;
  - (vii) to take steps to promote the uptake of corporate social responsibility (CSR), which must be additional to and not replace existing labour and environmental laws;
  - (viii) to guarantee that agreement on any dispute-settlement mechanism must take into account the results of the public consultation on investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS), must be fully transparent and democratically accountable and must not hinder legislators from passing laws in the area of employment policy;
  - (ix) to take steps to embed a ‘positive listing’ approach in the agreement;
  - (x) to ensure that statistical projections on job losses/gains, and on sectors, affected are constantly updated so that timely intervention can be undertaken by the Commission to support affected sectors, regions or Member States.