



**Transatlantic Trade
and Investment Partnership:
OUR CROWN JEWELS FOR SALE?**

Structure

- Main considerations
- Preferential Procurement and Social Economy
- Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade and Quality Social Services
- ISDS and access to ESCRs
- Jobs Creation and Working Conditions
- European Social Model

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What is SOLIDAR?

Who are we

- European network of 61 national NGOs



What we want

- To advance social justice in Europe and worldwide.



History

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- Created in 1948 as International Workers' Aid (IWA) within the framework of the Socialist International (SI)
- IWA changed its name to SOLIDAR in 1995 when it moved to Brussels

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Main considerations

Main considerations

- 120 million people living in poverty in the European Union
- 839 million workers living on less than 2 dollars a day world-wide
- 48 percent of all jobs are vulnerable employment
- Key aspects: decent work (creation), social protection and poverty eradication

Main considerations

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- Will liberalisation affect the job-rich & the economic growth potential of the Social Economy?
 - Can the opening up of markets respect quality frameworks that anchor the principle of good quality and accessible social services?
 - Are there provisions that limit the access to economic, social and cultural rights and the democratic legitimacy within this partnership?
 - Is the prediction to create millions of jobs correct and will the opening up of markets not undermine working conditions and quality employment?

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Preferential procurement and social economy

Social Economy

- Value-based economy for a more cohesive, democratic and active society
- 3.5 million new jobs created, representing 10-12% of the European economy
- Social, care and education services
- Free from the pressures of the global market integration

Preferential procurement

- Removal of possible discriminatory elements?
- Elements can include: measures to empower vulnerable people to improve their economic welfare
- Foster the special characteristics of social economy actors

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Non-Trade Barriers and Quality Social Services

Quality Social Services

- Services provided directly to a person in need of support, care, training, counselling, empowerment
- Voluntary European Quality Framework for Social Services: principles for the relationships between service providers and users; between service providers, public authorities, social partners and other stakeholders

Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade


- Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade: Quality conditions, Complex regulatory environment, Employment law
- What does the Commissioner say on this matter: NO, NO, YES...?
- Social services provided by non-profit providers on the basis of a concession

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ISDS and ESCRs

ISDS and ESCRs


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- A horizontal bar composed of five colored segments: orange, red, dark red, pink, and grey, spanning the width of the slide below the title.
- Investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS)
 - 3 June working seminar to respond to the ISDS consultation of the European Commission
 - ICESCR: all peoples may freely dispose (democratically) of their natural wealth and resources without prejudice to any obligations arising out of international economic co-operation

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Jobs Creation and Working Conditions

Jobs creation

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- €545 more in every family's pocket
 - Wages will rise with 0.5%
 - Increase of the EU economy around €120 billion
 - 1.8 million new Jobs
 - Joseph Stiglitz: Academic economists played a big role in causing the crisis. Their models were overly simplified, distorted, and left out the most important aspects

Working conditions

- ETUC: TTIP as a gold standard
- Prolonged and substantial adjustment costs
- No mitigation policies foreseen

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TTIP and its effect on the European Social Model

European Social Model

Question	Threat for the European Social Model	SOLIDAR Recommendations
1.	The eradication of preferential procurement diminishes the ability to foster, stimulate and develop the social economy, while its job-creation potential – as well as the growth realised in recent years – can be undermined.	The European Commission should exclude social services from the TTIP negotiations and has to respect the particular nature of social economy actors.
2.	Quality frameworks for social services could be considered to be Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade that need to be eradicated.	The European Commission should ensure that quality and accessibility are not considered Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade in Services.

European Social Model

Question	Threat for the European Social Model	SOLIDAR Recommendations
3.	Investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) is a tool that undermines the mandate of democratically legitimised governments and their need to progressively ensure ESCRs for all their citizens.	The European Commission has to avoid the inclusion of ISDS and offer full transparency of all negotiating mandates to allow for a public debate, with the full involvement of the European Parliament.
4.	The job creation potential is highly questionable, especially when offset against the job destruction of recent years.	The European Commission should ensure the right framework for promoting employment security as well as ensure high quality employment; recognising the job-creation potential of the social economy.

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