

**Mandelson: EU must avoid "protectionist turn" in global investment** - Brussels 5 December 2007

**EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson has said that the EU's approach to governance of foreign direct investment into the EU must reflect the conditions the EU expects for its own investment abroad. Speaking to a Policy Network High Level Seminar on Globalisation, Mandelson said that "Economic nationalism provokes economic nationalism, and then everyone starts to lose out ... Politicians have a huge responsibility not to overstate the risks attached to open investment because we have nothing to gain from a protectionist turn in global markets".**

Mandelson said: "So, while we can and should demand proper arrangements for the governance of government-linked investment vehicles and exercise some oversight when they invest in those few sectors of our economy that are genuinely strategically sensitive, this has to be done with extreme care".

[Read the full speech](#)