Services in TTIP

Helping Europe's services firms tap the US market

In this chapter we want to:
- make sure EU services companies can compete in the US on the same terms as US firms
- safeguard EU governments' right to run public services just as they wish.

Reasons for negotiating services

Services matter. They're the backbone of both the EU and US economies.

In fact, they account for as much as 60% of the economy - and jobs - in the EU. And the EU and US already export a lot of services to each other.

But EU firms still face hurdles when they try to sell their services on the US market.

TTIP aims to tackle these.

It would put in place rules that cut or scrap altogether limits now in place on how much an EU shareholder can own of a US company.

And it would:
- protect sectors which are sensitive for the EU or US, like public services
- uphold governments' right to:
  - set quality or safety standards

EU goals

In this part of the agreement, we want to secure at least the following benefits for EU businesses and professionals:

- **access** – tackle barriers that EU businesses face in certain sectors such as:
  - telecommunications (limits on how much an EU shareholder can own of a US company)
  - the dredging of harbours, ports or waterways (to remove mud or rocks)

- **mobility** - enabling professional such as architects to:
  - practise on either side of the Atlantic, by recognising each other's qualifications
  - enter US territory more easily.

- **licencing and approvals** – agree on high standards that make it faster and clearer for individuals and firms to get licences or formal approval to offer services like:
  - auditing
  - management consultancy
  - legal advice.

- **new rules** – agree rules for industries which are key to Europe's economy, like...
  - telecommunications
  - e-commerce
...that would help us export more - for example, by ensuring that:

- EU and US firms can compete on equal terms in either market
- governments treat EU and US firms in the same way
- regulators can work together more closely in future.

- **certainty** – securing the firmest possible guarantees from the US that EU companies will have at least the same access to the US market as they do now.

- **protection** – for sensitive sectors such as:
  - TV, radio and films
  - public health and education
  - social services, and
  - water distribution.

**Sensitive or controversial issues**

In this area, some issues are sensitive or controversial.

Here’s a summary of the main ones, and what we’re doing to address each.

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<tr>
<th>Sensitivity/concern</th>
<th>EU response</th>
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<td><strong>1. Public services</strong></td>
<td>The EU doesn’t take any commitments for publicly funded health, education, social services or water. The same applies to the collection, purification and distribution of water. Member States can take any measures they wish now and in the future in these areas.</td>
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<td>TTIP threatens the special role of public services in sectors such as health, education, or social services.</td>
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**2. Culture**

TTIP jeopardises cultural diversity in Europe.

We don’t make commitments in areas such as film, radio and television. This allows Member States to take any measures they wish e.g. to impose quotas for EU productions.

**3. Data protection**

With TTIP, our personal data will not be protected any more.

Data protection standards won’t be part of TTIP negotiations. TTIP will make sure that the EU’s data protection laws prevail over any commitments.