



Public procurement in TTIP

Enabling EU firms to bid for more public contracts in the US

In this chapter, we want to enable EU firms to:

- bid for a larger share of the products and services which US public authorities buy
- compete with US firms on the same grounds.

Reasons for negotiating public procurement

Tendering for public contracts is about how public authorities spend taxpayers' money when buying goods, works or services. The EU and the US have the largest public contracts markets in the world and have rules aimed at ensuring public money is spent in a transparent, efficient and non-discriminatory way.

Nevertheless, companies currently face obstacles in winning public contracts across the Atlantic. Sometimes, they are not even allowed to bid for a contract. The TTIP talks provide an opportunity to remove remaining obstacles and to ensure that EU and US firms can bid for public tenders on equal terms.

Further market opening in public procurement across the Atlantic would be good for both the EU and US.

For public authorities with tight budgets, it can bring:

- better value for money
- more choice
- greater economic efficiency

- good governance.

For companies it could:

- increase demand for their products or services
- create opportunities for growth
- safeguard existing jobs
- create new jobs.

EU goals

We want to make sure that in this part of the agreement, we:

- agree on rules which will ensure that EU or US companies are not discriminated against when tendering for public contracts on each other's market
- agree on rules to maximise transparency in tendering for public contracts to ensure EU and US firms are aware of opportunities across the Atlantic
- maximise the opportunities for EU and US firms to participate in public tenders at all government levels, whether central/sub-central, federal or sub-federal, without being discriminated against.

Sensitive or controversial issues

We're not currently aware of any issues which are especially sensitive or where people have raised specific concerns.

We want to open up public tendering markets on the basis of rules on transparency and non-discrimination similar to those that apply under EU law.

TTIP will not affect public authorities'

- ability to choose to outsource a public service or produce it in-house.
- capacity to choose goods, services and works that promote

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- environmental protection
 - social progress
 - labour law enforcement.
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