

## WEEK IN BRUSSELS

Week ending Friday 19 July

### Outcomes of first round of EU-US trade negotiations

The outcomes of the first round of the EU-US Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) were published this week. The first round of week long talks concluded on 12 July and took place in Washington DC. Throughout the week of discussions, the negotiating groups set out respective approaches and ambitions in as much as twenty various areas that the TTIP is set to cover. They included: market access for agricultural and industrial goods, government procurement, investment, energy and raw materials, regulatory issues, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, services, intellectual property rights, sustainable development, small- and medium-sized enterprises, dispute settlement, competition, customs/trade facilitation, and state-owned enterprises. It is also understood negotiators also identified certain areas of convergence across various components of the negotiation and - in areas of divergence – begun to explore possibilities to bridge the gaps. There will be a second round of negotiations in the autumn in October. EU Chief Negotiator Ignacio Garcia-Bercero said “It’s been a very productive week. We have been striving already for many months to prepare the ground for an ambitious trade and investment deal that will boost the transatlantic economy, delivering jobs and growth for both European and Americans.” (Source: European Commission)

<http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=941>



### EU and China meet to discuss green growth

European Commission Vice-President Antonio Tajani, Commissioner for Industry and Entrepreneurship, and Janez Potočnik, Commissioner for Environment together visited China to discuss Business opportunities from resource efficient production. According to the Commission, green growth is now high on the political agenda for the EU and China – both are interested in achieving sustainable growth while maintaining and improving the state of their respective environments. It is estimated that the global market for green goods and services is currently estimated at around €1000 billion per annum, and this is expected to double by 2020. This year the European Union and China are celebrating the 10th anniversary of their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and “Green Growth” has been proposed both as a key topic for the upcoming EU-Summit and for this Mission for Growth. (Source: European Commission) [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_MEMO-13-697\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-13-697_en.htm)

### Latest Eurozone inflation figures

Eurostat has published the latest inflation figures, showing the Euro area annual inflation was 1.6% in June 2013, up from 1.4% in May. A year earlier the rate was 2.4%. Monthly inflation was 0.1% in June 2013. (Source: Eurostat)

[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_STAT-13-109\\_en.htm?locale=en](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STAT-13-109_en.htm?locale=en)

### Week ahead

#### European Parliament

The European Parliament is in recess until 2 September

#### Council of the EU

22 July - Foreign Affairs Council

25 July – Economic and Financial Affairs Council

#### European Commission

No relevant activity