



PRESS CONFERENCE

Resumption of EU-US trade talks – Civil society's fears and expectations

Tuesday 12th November, 10:30

on the occasion of the rescheduled second round trade talks between the EU and US, in Brussels

International Press Centre, Résidence Palace, Passage Room (rue de la Loi 155C)

Speakers :

- Magda Stoczkiewicz, Director, Friends of the Earth Europe
- Monique Goyens, Director General, BEUC and EU Co-chair Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD)
- Monika Kosinska, Director, European Public Health Alliance

Coffee will be served from 10:00 onwards

Please RSVP to natacha.cingotti@foeeurope.org

After stalling last month due to the US government shut-down, trade talks between the EU and US are now back on with a new round of negotiations happening in Brussels next week (11-15 November).

These negotiations, known under the acronym TTIP (Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership) are being touted as the biggest bilateral free trade agreement in history. The aim of the talks is ostensibly to reach an agreement to make trade easier on both sides of the Atlantic but in reality they represent a massive exercise in bringing down so-called barriers to trade.

The business lobby on both sides of the Atlantic is already using the negotiations to make proposals to weaken existing and forthcoming standards and regulations in areas such as consumer and environmental protection. So, what is at stake for consumers, the environment and society at large?

With a focus on the key issues of food, data protection, transparency, public health, and proposed excessive rights for companies to challenge domestic policies, civil society organisations will highlight the risks the talks represent for consumers and the environment.