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(TRADE)

From: [redacted] (TRADE)
Sent: 02 June 2014 11:42
To: SCHLEGELMILCH Rupert (TRADE); GARCIA BERCERO Ignacio (TRADE);

Subject: TTIP investment - meeting with Federation of European Publishers, 28 May 2014

On 28 May 2014 [redacted] and I met, at their request, representatives from the Federation of European Publishers lead by Ms Bergman-Tahon. The Federation wanted to discuss the compatibility of the systems of fixed prices for books in effect in certain Member States with the investment provisions envisaged for TTIP.

After hearing a detailed description of the fixed price systems in France and Germany [redacted]

[redacted] I went through the various objectives that the EU intends to pursue in these negotiations, as illustrated in the public consultation, stressing the aim of ensuring that the sovereign right of the Member States to legislate in the public interest (such as cultural diversity) would remain unaffected by the TTIP. I recalled the very significant number of BITs that France and Germany have in place, noting that to my knowledge the fixed price systems have never been challenged. I also explained the rationale as to why a claim on fixed price systems for books would not be likely to be successful under the investment / ISDS approach that we illustrate in the public consultation.

I stressed the EU interest to avoid putting in jeopardy the fixed price system for books and requested any available more detailed descriptions of the legislation and practice in all the Member States, which the Federation promised to send us. We agreed to remain in touch and if necessary to meet again after September.



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