Meeting Report

Report – Meeting between Commissioner Malmström and a Delegation of the German-speaking Community in Belgium – 7/9

The Commissioner received a delegation composed of representatives of the German-speaking Community, including the President of the Parliament, MPs, and other stakeholders. Most of the participants sought reassurances on 'classical' TTIP fears.

Questions focussed on ISDS, notably on its possible chilling effect and on the reasons for its inclusion despite broad rejection in the public consultation. Strong concerns were expressed about regulatory cooperation and especially the RCB. Several speakers asked how a democratic oversight over the RCB would be ensured. The interventions showed that the concerns over the impact of TTIP at local level and the fear of forced privatisation of public services persist. Several delegations complained about the lack of transparency. MPs looked forward to receiving access to consolidated texts. A Green representative raised the importance of Belgian GIs.

Other questions included the impact on growth and jobs, the risk of social dumping, the impact on LDCs (notably generics) and the impact on SMEs.