## **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

Directorate-General for Trade

Directorate E - Neighbouring countries, USA and Canada USA and Canada

Brussels, USA and Canada

## **Meeting Report**

Report - Meeting between Christian Burgsmüller and an FDP delegation of the Nordrhein Westfalen Landtag – 8/9

Constructive meeting with pro-TTIP audience. Speakers confirmed that the negative rhetoric and mistrust persist. Several speakers regretted that the debate focussed still too little on facts and too much on fears and misperceptions. Outreach would be needed towards SME and workers representatives, starting to deploy an anti-TTIP narrative. The need for greater outreach towards the local authorities associations (kommunalen Spitzenverbände) was mentioned. One of the speakers suggested publishing a clear list of issues that are clearly outside the scope of the Agreement (for e.g. forced privatisation of water services). More outreach was considered necessary also towards the middle class who seem to have lost trust in the benefits of free trade. Some participants asked about the ISDS reform.