Today (16.10.2012), I met with the Trade Policy Committee of ESF to debrief them on the state of play of different services negotiations or potential negotiations.

The main comments raised by ESF members on the different files were:

**Plurilateral:**

- Telefónica: Would any rules on ICT correspond to the EU-US ICT principles? I explained that the principles would likely be used as a source of policy inspiration, but that they were not detailed enough to be the basis for possible treaty language.
- Member of ESF:
  - Will SOE disciplines include anti-subsidy disciplines? I explained that we have not yet seen any draft SOE text and that we have raised the same question in the preliminary RGF discussions without getting a clear answer from the main SOE proponent (the USA).
  - He explained that the EU industry was interested in disciplines tackling large state financing to SOEs or non-SOEs for infrastructure projects.
  - Shall the Plurilateral rules include protection for services intellectual property? I explained that the issue had not been raised during RGF discussion and invited ESF to elaborate on the kind of IP disciplines, if any, they would like to see included in the Plurilateral.
- ESF raised concerns on acquisition of EU companies by subsidized SOEs. I asked him to further elaborate on his concerns.
- Eurocommerce: thanked COM for its efforts in ensuring that the Plurilateral architecture remained anchored in GATS to facilitate its multilateralisation (main Eurocommerce's objective).