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Subject: Event - Swedish Society for Politics and Business, SPN, EP, TTIPS impact for workers and employers - 14.10.2015

Short report

SPN invited the CEO of Swedish Enterprise, Carola Lemne, the chairman of Sweden's major trade union LO, Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson, INTA MEP Schuster (S&D, DE) and IGB for an exchange of views on TTIPS impact for workers and employers and how it will affect workers and employers if we don't get a TTIP agreement. In Sweden, Trade unions and employers have agreed on a joint policy on TTIP and both unions as employers largely support the establishment of a trade agreement between the EU and US. This was reflected in interventions by Carola Lemne, and Mr Thorwaldsson. Cautious support of TTIP from MEP Schuster – not against TTIP but should have ILO ratification of CLS conventions by US as result. No level playing field now. Only two ILO conventions ratified. TTIP should have no impact for public services at city and municipalities level. ISDS must be out.

Interveners paid a lot of attention on TPP, labour standards in Asia and the cost of non-TTIP. Gunnar Hökmark, Chairman of SPN Brussels referred to the geopolitical impact of failure (influence of China and Russia). DE, BE, ES trade unions intervened. Less positive: power of corporations in US, regulatory chill, CETA, public services etc. DE representative' of employers federation asked present DE Tus to take an example of Sweden.

IGB: importance for TTIP – direct in respect of products. Golden standard for RW. Less direct impact for sustainable development standards. However, influence is there. Trade and labour debate impossible in Seattle. 16 years later less controversial. Integral part of several trade agreements. Power of corporations: my doors are open for everyone.