

UPS [Art 4.16], accompanied by [Art 4.16] [deleted - not relevant to the request] At the same time, it was an opportunity to discuss the industry engagement in the trade agenda, particularly the EU-US trade talks. In Commissioner's absence, he was received by Damien Levie.

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As regards the EU-US trade agreement, he reiterated the company/industry's full support. He stressed that the EU and US have to set a global standard for trade in different regulatory areas

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He referred to his congressional testimony last week where he emphasized the positive impact of trade on jobs (at UPS, 22 additional packages a day translate into one full time job) and spoke about enabling SMEs to take more advantage of trade agreement. While little can happen before election, he assured the business is getting ready to step up the game thereafter to get the necessary political support

[NOT RELEASABLE]

[Art 4.16] further stressed that, rather than just complaining, the industry wants to be part of the solution and work with us to find feasible ways to deal with regulatory issues. Levie welcomed this as it was also the approach the Commission was taking. He referred to the recent business consultations on regulatory barriers and technical-level contacts with the industry. He invited input in such areas as customs procedures where companies like UPS have particular expertise. [Art 4.16] confirmed their interest and mentioned the mutual recognition of secure trader programmes as an example that was going well.

[Art 4.16] also mentioned the plurilateral services agreement which he estimated would mean 3 million good-paying jobs in the US. He acknowledged that it would require some difficult concessions on the US side. But, as in relation to the EU-US trade initiative, he was optimistic that after the election the political leadership can be convinced to get the US "do its part for the greater good". The on-going crisis, in his view, will help.