

**From:** DUEERKOP Marco (TRADE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 05, 2013 6:30 PM  
**Subject:** TTIP: BITKOM working group - report

I participated in a meeting of the working group "public affairs" of BITKOM in Brussels dedicated to TTIP. BITKOM is the German association for ICT, telecommunication and new media. Among the members of BITKOM are also subsidiaries of US companies such as Microsoft or IBM. BITKOM had issued a position paper on TTIP in June.

I debriefed about the current state of play in TTIP with respect to services issues of interest to BITKOM, including telecom, computer services and electronic commerce. I also briefly touched upon other issues mentioned in our ICT concept paper such as cloud computing and cyber security.

Participants' questions nearly exclusively focused on data issues where I took our usual line of distinguishing between data flows and data protection issues. I cautioned against any attempts to influence EU data protection standards through the backdoor of TTIP. [ **NOT RELEASABLE** ].

All in all a useful discussion underlining the crucial importance of data issues for the ICT sector.

Marco