

Report on meeting with Business Europe on TTIP and data flows / data protection
(16/12/2013)

Participants

Business Europe

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DG TRADE: Rupert Schlegelmilch, Jan-Willem Verheijden

Main points

- At the request of Business Europe (BE), Rupert provided an update about the state of play of TTIP and the safe harbour discussions.
- BE asked how data protection relates to data flows. Rupert explained that personal data is a sub-set of all data that flows. Protection of personal data as such is non-negotiable and excluded from the scope of TTIP. In this regard, BE mentioned the wide scope of the definition of data protection.
- BE drew out attention to problems with the flow of customs data which can be of a personal and/or confidential nature. Rupert encouraged BE to make us aware of all obstacles to data flows that European companies are facing.

Follow-up: it was agreed to stake stock of the developments in a couple of weeks. [NOT RELEVANT]

Jan-Willem