Transparency: Stakeholder Concerns from the TTIP Negotiations

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Presentation to the December 2017 Meetings of the IATRC, WDC
BACKGROUND & THE QUESTION

Will Clayton
Lead US Negotiator

vs.

Sir Richard Stafford Cripps
Lead UK Negotiator

NO TPP STOP SECRET TRADE DEALS
FROM THE LAUNCH TO THE EU’S MID-TERM CORRECTION

What countries are involved with TTIP?

TTIP
EU
HLWG
High Level Working Group

FINAL COUNT:
3,284,289
PEOPLE AGAINST TTIP AND CETA!
ENOUGH TO FORM A HUMAN CHAIN
FROM GIBRALTAR TO TALLINN.

STOP TTIP
WWW.STOP-TTIP.ORG

4500 KM
TO ASSESS AND ANALYZE HOW EU STAKEHOLDERS DEFINE THE PROBLEM OF TRANSPARENCY IN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS AND THEN HOW THEY DEFINE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS
WHAT IS TRANSPARENCY?

“PUT SIMPLY, TRANSPARENCY IS THE OPPOSITE OF SECRECY. SECRECY MEANS DELIBERATELY HIDING YOUR ACTIONS; TRANSPARENCY MEANS DELIBERATELY REVEALING THEM....TRANSPARENCY AND SECRECY ARE NOT EITHER/OR CONDITIONS. AS IDEALS, THEY REPRESENT TWO ENDS OF A CONTINUUM. (FLORINII 1998, PG. 50)
RELEVANT WORK

• Game theoretic approaches: long history of application to trade negotiations
  • David Bullock 2017

• Arguments for centralizing negotiations: principal agent theory
  • Meunier 2005

New Era Trade Deals
Baldwin 2014
De Ville and Siles-Brügge 2016
QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS

• Review of literature, documents, attendance at stakeholder conferences
  • Identify issues, stakeholders, measure for transparency

• Stakeholder interviews
  • 21 to date, around an hour, using a semi-structured interview instrument

• Qualitative analysis
  • Interviews, transcript become data
  • Qualitative analysis
  • Using coding and looking for commonalities and differences between the stakeholders
INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

• Purpose of organization
• View of TTIP: reasons for support, lack of support:
• Business interests and widely held values EU?
• Trade off: does ↑ transparency ↓ ability to succeed?
• Did transparency result in changes to provisions?
• Implications for future trade agreements

Evaluation of Tools for Transparency

Negotiating documents
Briefings
Advisory Group
Stakeholder dialogue
TRANSPARENCY AND THE BEST DEAL
CONFLICT BETWEEN BUSINESS INTERESTS AND WIDELY HELD VALUES BY EU CITIZENS?

STAKEHOLDERS: MARKET ACCESS VERSUS NEW ERA ASPECTS
DID TRANSPARENCY LEAD TO CHANGES?
TRANSPARENCY IS MULTIDIMENSIONAL
EU Comm:
• Published its commitments to transparency (2015)
• New practices considered by Australia, New Zealand, Tunisia
• MERCOSUR engagement in public dialogue
DISTRIBUTIVE VERSUS NORMATIVE TRADE CONFLICT

NOT EXPORT VERSUS IMPORT-PROTECTING INDUSTRIES

BUT NORMATIVE CONFLICT OVER VALUE BASED QUESTIONS EMBEDDED IN STANDARDS