



TPN

TRANSATLANTIC POLICY NETWORK

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2019

Building tomorrow's partnership today.

It has been a busy three months for the Transatlantic Policy Network as we have focused on two major objectives: developing the initiative to strengthen and renew the transatlantic partnership and agenda through to 2030; and the recruitment of new Members of the United States Congress and European Parliament. As you know, this latter objective was particularly important following the 2018 midterm elections in the United States and the elections for the European Parliament in May of this year.

In addition, we have continued with our normal programming, the highlights of which included our reception for new Members of the European Parliament in Strasbourg and the formal dinner on Capitol Hill in honour of the new Ambassador of the European Union to the United States.

Finally, we have made further progress with the upgrading of TPN's brand and profile with the launch of our new website, which includes a dedicated portal for our Members, and expanded social media presence on LinkedIn and Twitter. More detail on all these activities can be found below.



Strengthening and renewing the transatlantic partnership and agenda

As you know from our last update, we want TPN to continue to play an active role in feeding in ideas and thinking that can contribute to a renewal of the transatlantic partnership and agenda through to 2030. We want to do this in a structured way by bringing legislators and TPN participants (from academia, civil society, as well as business) to develop jointly actionable objectives for the transatlantic partnership and agenda over the short, medium and long term.

Our focus will be on the horizontal, geopolitical challenges, as well as on distinct, yet interlinked, policy areas such as trade & investment, digital transformation, security and defence, and sustainable development.

To give this initiative life, TPN developed a political declaration of support for strengthening and renewing the transatlantic partnership and agenda. You can read this [here](#). To date, nearly fifty new (and former) Members of the European Parliament and United States Congress have signed the declaration. Current signatories can be found [here](#) and we continue to add new names on a weekly basis.

We have also commissioned a series of thought leadership pieces, from TPN's academic network, in each of the areas outlined above. These will be both analytical and predictive, as well as setting out some new ideas for how the European Union and the United States can work together. We will present these pieces at a series of physical and virtual meetings, in the autumn, which links together our EU and US-based participants. This will catalyse the formation and thinking of the working groups on how to strengthen and renew the transatlantic partnership and agenda, which will feed into Transatlantic Week 2020 in Washington D.C. in the spring of next year.

Programming



The highlight of our program over the past couple of months on the EU side was undoubtedly the reception held for Members of the new European Parliament in Strasbourg on July 3rd. Given the intensive agenda in the earliest days of the new mandate, we were encouraged by the excellent attendance of more than 25 MEPs, who joined other TPN participants to learn more about our work.

The event featured interventions from **Daniel Caspary MEP**, who hosted the evening, and **Nicolae Ștefănuță MEP**, a new Member of the Parliament from Romania.

Both spoke passionately about the importance of the transatlantic partnership. TPN's Board Member, **Simon Serfaty**, who also helped to draft the political declaration of support referenced above, also addressed the participants with an insightful analysis of the current and future direction of the relationship. You can read his remarks [here](#). The event also provided the opportunity to launch the political declaration of support, signed by the MEPs.

In the United States, our program has intensified with a series of roundtables, including those addressed by **Congressman Darin LaHood, (R-IL)** and **Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy, (D-FL)**. Both are Members of the House Ways and Means Committee and focused their discussions on trade and security issues.

In the absence of our normal Transatlantic Week, (due to the constitution of the new European Parliament, following the elections), TPN hosted a small EU delegation of our political, academic and business participants in Washington D.C.

Together with our locally based participants, we had an excellent program of meetings and events including:

- Roundtable discussion with **Demetri Sevastopulo**, the Financial Times' Washington, D.C. Bureau Chief



Congressmen Jim Costa, Bill Keating, & Ron Kind with the EU Ambassador to the United States, Stavros Lambrinidis, and Portugal's Ambassador to the United States, Domingos Fezas Vital

- Bilateral meetings with **Ambassador Mike McKinley**, Senior Adviser to Mike Pompeo, (United States Secretary of State) and **Rob Strayer**, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Cyber Security, Information and Communications at the State Department.
- Roundtable with **David Weiner** (and team), Head of Europe desk, United States Trade Representative

The highlight of this program was the formal dinner which TPN hosted on Capitol Hill, in the room of the House Committee on Agriculture, in honour of His Excellency, **Stavros Lambrinidis**, the new European Union Ambassador to the United States. The dinner was chaired by **Congressman Jim Costa**, (also TPN's Chair in the United States), and provided the platform to launch the political declaration of support for renewing and strengthening the Transatlantic partnership and agenda, in the United States. We had an excellent turnout of Members of Congress, including long-time TPN Member, **Congressman Ron Kind**, and others such as **Congressmen Bill Keating, Mark Meadows, Gregory Meeks, Will Hurd, Jimmy Panetta**, and **Michael Turner**, who are relatively new to TPN. We were also honoured to be joined by Portugal's Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency, **Domingos Fezas Vital**.



Political membership

All of the above activities have stimulated a significant amount of interest amongst legislators on both sides of the Atlantic in joining TPN. On the EU side, several new members have joined TPN, following the elections, including:

- Seb Dance MEP, (United Kingdom, S&D)
- Søren Gade MEP (Denmark, Renew Europe)
- Arba Kokalari MEP, (Sweden, EPP)
- Leopoldo López Gil MEP (Spain, EPP)
- Rory Palmer MEP, (United Kingdom, S&D)
- Tonino Picula MEP, (Croatia, S&D)
- Nicolae Ștefănuță MEP, (Romania, Renew Europe)
- István Ujhelyi MEP (Hungary, S&D)
- Javier Zarzalejos MEP (Spain, EPP)

On the US side, we are particularly delighted to welcome **Congressman Bill Keating**, (D-MA) to TPN. Congressman Keating is on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and chairs the Sub-Committee on Europe, Eurasia, Energy and the Environment.

You can find an up to date list on our website of TPN's EU Parliamentary Members [here](#) and our US Congressional Group Members [here](#).



TPN profile and brand

Over the past couple of months, TPN has upgraded and rebranded its website to reflect the forward-looking, dynamic organisation that we are, committed to strengthening and renewing the transatlantic partnership and agenda. You can learn more by clicking [here](#).

The new website also contains a new portal for Members, which contains details of our upcoming program and activities, as well as useful reference material, a gallery, and back-copies of these newsletters. New content will be added going forward. To get your personal access information, please email lauran.burrell@tpnonline.org.

In addition, you can also follow us on Twitter at [@TPNOnline](https://twitter.com/TPNOnline) and Director-General, Mark Titterington, regularly posts on transatlantic issues on his LinkedIn feed [here](#).



We are delighted to announce that **Oana Matei**, will join TPN for the next six months, with a view to confirming a longer-term position with the organisation next year. Oana formerly worked for Victor Bostinaru in the European Parliament and has been a senior adviser for the S&D Group in the Parliament on transatlantic issues and foreign affairs. Please join us in welcoming Oana to TPN and wishing her every success.

Finally, our autumn/winter program is now being finalised and invitations will be going out shortly to events featuring former EU Ambassador to the United States, **David O'Sullivan**; **Antonio Missiroli**, NATO Assistant Secretary-General for emerging security challenges; and a meeting of our TPN participants, including the legislators, from the European Union and the United States, in Brussels, in October or November. This will be a key staging post in the development of our initiative to strengthen and renew the transatlantic partnership and agenda through to 2030. We will, of course, also make sure to invite the incoming EU Commissioners to TPN as soon as possible and look forward to your ideas and support for reaching out.

In preparation for our autumn programming, we thought you may be interested to listen to Rob Strayer's recent interview for BBC HardTalk on the emerging security challenges posed by the digital transformation (click [here](#)); and to review **Dan Hamilton's** testimony to the House Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee on Europe, Eurasia, Energy and the Environment, in which he discusses the potential policy impacts of a US-EU trade conflict, (click [here](#)).

We trust that this update is both useful and interesting for you, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to [contact us](#).

Best wishes,

Mark

Mark Titterington

Director-General

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