



# TPN

TRANSATLANTIC POLICY NETWORK

## NEWSLETTER

WINTER EDITION

### **Building tomorrow's partnership today**

As we move into a new transatlantic era, our warmest thanks are due to those of you who stood by TPN during a year involving exceptional challenges arising from the pandemic creating major problems of both an organisational and operational nature. The Network has thankfully survived them and is ready for the fresh challenges and opportunities which lie ahead.

There is now a strong prospect of success for those of us who believe in the future of the transatlantic relationship. The US President Joe Biden is well known for his multilateral principles and is putting into place an Administration firmly committed to the Atlantic Partnership. Initial signs from the EU Institutions are that they support the idea of a strong Transatlantic Partnership. The US and the EU institutions will now be led by the same leaderships until the autumn of 2024.

Over the past year, the online dimension has revolutionised the way TPN operates, allowing our communities in both Brussels and Washington to interact more closely with each other on a regular basis. The shift to online operations has added a sharpened focus and a new immediacy. The overall programme for 2020 involved the organisation of over 30 meetings, both online and offline. Face-to-face meetings will be reintroduced whenever it is permitted to do so.

We published the TPN Interim report entitled "The TPN Papers – Towards Transatlantic Partnership 2030 ", ending the Preliminary Phase of the Transatlantic Vision 2030 exercise in September. We will continue to develop this TA 2030 Vision series, under political leadership, launching the Substantive Phase of the Project for the period 2021 - 2024 at the TA Week in July 2021.

We will maintain our traditional programme of discussion forums as virtual conversations to contribute ideas for coherent joint action for the Transatlantic Partnership. And we have started a distinct trilateral series looking at the evolving triangular relationship between the US, the UK and the EU post Brexit. There will continue to be outreach for increasing our membership, aiming to double our numbers of political members in both the European Parliament and the US Congress by end 2021.

Adding to the Team, we are delighted to introduce a new Senior Director helping the operations of TPN, Jeffries Briginshaw. Apart from assisting the general operations of the Network, he is focussing on strengthening the TPN business proposition and on supplementing our overall communications capability.



## TA Vision 2030 – Strengthening Transatlantic Partnership

We completed the launch of the TPN Interim report entitled “The TPN Papers – Towards Transatlantic Partnership 2030”, ending the Preliminary Phase of the Transatlantic Vision 2030 exercise

The Interim Report provided a strong platform for a well-timed public event under the title ‘Towards Transatlantic Partnership – Rebuilding Trust’ on December 9<sup>th</sup> which featured legislators and experts discussing the themes and priorities established in the Interim Report. A list of priority actions to be taken by the US and the EU administrations was released on this occasion. As a public event offered beyond TPN’s membership, the meeting was well attended (150+) and amplified across TPN social media. See You Tube content at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHiSQSztGO1wicz7R-kRzw>

### “Towards Transatlantic Partnership – Rebuilding Trust”

Opening session: **Danuta Huebner MEP and Rep Jim Costa**

Keynote speaker: **Ambassador Wendy Sherman**

Economic and Trade session: **Daniel Caspary MEP and Rep Ron Kind**

Digital Session: **Pilar del Castillo MEP and Tyson Barker**

Around the same time, the European Commission and the High Representative launched their proposal for a new, forward-looking transatlantic agenda called the “New US/EU Agenda for Global Change”. Commission President Ursula von der Leyen described this moment as a ‘once-in-a-generation opportunity to design a new transatlantic agenda for global cooperation based on common values, interests and global influence’.

The Substantive Phase towards the goal of Transatlantic Partnership 2030 is taking shape looking at the priority actions to be developed as well as the political institutional frameworks to be established and built upon. The Network seeks to encourage greater participation of the political communities on both sides of the Atlantic. For it will be through the vigorous support of the US Congress and the European Parliament that there will be the best chance to make progress on those priority areas which lie in their field of competences (E.G. the digital and economic dimensions).



## Programme

Several virtual conversations were held during the Autumn on a wide range of differing topical issues:

- “A Europe Fit for the Digital Age” Executive Vice President **Margrethe Vestager** Member of the European Commission responsible for ‘A Europe Fit for the Digital Age and Competition’.
- “The US Presidential Elections” Session 1 with **Ambassador Anthony Gardner**, Former US Ambassador to the EU.
- Report launch: ‘Transatlantic Task Force: Together or Alone? “Choices and Strategies for Transatlantic Relations for 2021 and Beyond” with **Bruce Stokes**, Executive Director, Transatlantic Task Force, German Marshall Fund of the United States.
- “The US Presidential Elections” Session 2 with **The Honorable Darrell Issa**, Member of Congress for the 50<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of California.
- “WTO Reform” with **Rufus Yerxa**, President, National Foreign Trade Council.
- “America in the World: A History of US Diplomacy and Foreign Policy” with **Bob Zoellick**, Former President of the World Bank, United States Trade Representation
- “EU US economic relations, focus agriculture and sustainability” with **Ted McKinney**, **Under Secretary, USDA**.



## New Members

As we had previously indicated, under the leadership of Kati Piri MEP, we are delighted to report that the following MEPs listed below have joined the TPN Network. We look forward to them participating in our activities and will continue to welcome new members as the year proceeds.

- Brando Benifei MEP, S&D – Italy
- Geert Bourgeois MEP, ECR – Belgium
- Paolo de Castro MEP, S&D – Italy
- Katalin Cseh MEP, RE – Hungary
- Christophe Hansen, EPP – Luxembourg
- Evin Incir MEP, S&D – Sweden
- Sergey Lagodinsky MEP, G/EFA – Germany
- Javi López MEP, S&D – Spain
- Radosław Sikorski MEP, EPP – Poland
- Nils Ušakovs MEP, S&D – Latvia
- Maria Walsh MEP, EPP – Ireland
- Pernille Weiss MEP, EPP – Denmark
- Željana Zovko MEP, EPP – Croatia

A significant outreach has now also begun to recruit new Members of the US Congress. We are looking forward to meeting up with them at TA Week 2021 or face to face later in the year.



## Communications

We have upgraded some of our communications, while continuing to rely on the TPN website and member portal as the key hub for our online identity. We have become more active on Twitter – please follow us on @TPNOnline! and opened coverage across LINKEDIN and You Tube (see <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChiSQSztGO1wicj7R-kRzw> - please subscribe!) platforms.



## Looking Ahead

We firmly believe that there is a significant future for the Transatlantic Partnership with recent developments both in the US and Europe adding new energy to common efforts to deliver collaboration.

In the months ahead, we will be welcoming prominent US Congressional members, MEPs, European Commissioners, high level members of the US administration together with other prominent individuals contributing their ideas to shaping the Transatlantic Partnership . These different activities will culminate in TA Week 2021, being held online during the week beginning Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

We will continue to vigorously pursue the creation of ideas and recommendations for US and EU policymakers. We look forward to achieving these goals together with our members and supporters in the months ahead. In so doing, we would warmly welcome your input and suggestions for speakers and themes as well as for projects and other initiatives. We hope that, as a result, the idea and reality of a strong, active Transatlantic Partnership 2030 will grow.

As a reminder, TPN always appreciates the opportunity to organise events for business participants. These occasions usually take the form of a roundtable for visiting top-level executives. They have always proved successful and informative for all participants.

On behalf of all of us in TPN, we hope you keep safe and well.

All good wishes.

Vivien

**Vivien Haig and the TPN Team**

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TPN Member login details are: User ID: TPN100 Password: %92tPn20#

TPN's Data Privacy Policy explains what personal data we collect and how we use it.

To opt-out of receiving invitations and/or updates by e-mail, please mail us at [tpnoffice@tpnonline.org](mailto:tpnoffice@tpnonline.org)

TPN Transparency Registration ID Number: 923710115785-95

