



TPN 2030 VISION PROJECT 2021-2024

THE SUBSTANTIVE PHASE

The Preliminary Phase was completed as planned in September 2020 with the launch of the Interim report “The TPN Papers: Towards Transatlantic Partnership 2030”. In its foreword, the aim of the exercise was clearly delineated.

“The future of this partnership is more important than ever. We believe it needs a stable and lasting framework that will be the natural successor to the New Transatlantic Agenda (NTA) of 1995”.

More specifically, the foreword went on to say:

“During 2021-2024, TPN will be working towards developing a vision for Transatlantic Partnership to 2030. This needs to be a broadly based set of collaborations inspired by liberal democratic values, dedicated to rebuilding transatlantic trust and defending the rule of law and multilateral institutions. Its scope must range from digital regulation and transformation (absent from the original 1995 Agenda) to trade and the economy, security, and sustainability.”

Then in regard to moving on to the next phase, the report indicated:

“The next phase, the Substantive, will be about examining, testing, and framing ideas for the Partnership to give it content and objectives to be achieved by 2030. Looking beyond current day-to-day events, the intention is to arrive at a vision for the transatlantic relationship in 2030 and to develop a roadmap for getting there.”

“This Substantive phase will be launched at TA Week in July 2021. At this occasion, TPN will present some thoughts about what a new Transatlantic framework could look like to stimulate debate over the years ahead”.

PROPOSED STRUCTURE FOR THE SUBSTANTIVE PHASE

It is suggested that there should be five specific sectors set out below:

>**Geopolitical** - focussing on the political and security challenges facing the transatlantic partners – for example, on the rise of China; the evolution of NATO and defense policy, as well as the cybersecurity realm;

>**Digital Transformation** – examining the policy challenges raised by digital transformation of our societies and economies, such as data privacy, joint action on emerging technologies, and the longer-term issues concerning the implications for the future of work and democracy;

>**Economy and Trade** - covering coordination of post-Covid 19 recovery strategies, as well as economic, trade, and investment issues, both bilaterally and multilaterally;

>**Sustainable Development** - exploring key climatic and environmental challenges and the opportunities and benefits, including economic as well as societal, which arise from tackling them effectively;

>**Transatlantic Partnership** – reviewing the overall partnership, in particular how the stable and lasting framework should be put together and the key political challenges addressed.

From the outset, the importance of political leadership has been recognised if anything is to change. So discussions under these headings will be led by members from the US Congress and the European Parliament, where possible online.

DEVELOPING THE SUBSTANCE

The revitalization of the Transatlantic Partnership can best be done by bringing those players on both sides who have the willingness to develop joint actions in specific sectors. New processes, as well as policy initiatives, could breathe fresh air into the TA relationship with the help of flexible and consistent mechanisms for joint discussion, cooperation, and action.

Within TPN, from September 2021 onwards, each of these sectors mentioned above will organize regular meetings on the priority issues identified. In doing so, they can convene, as participants, stakeholders from academia, civil society, and business from both sides of the Atlantic. Insights and ideas will be generated across the TPN program of activities, working with like-minded transatlantic organizations to broaden support and maximize the impact of the project.

This will be done mostly by online exchanges, supplemented through specially convened events in Brussels and Washington when health conditions allow. Virtual meetings will be convened with those at the US State level and those at the EU Member State level. They will be looking at ideas to progress the transatlantic relationship in each of the key focus areas, but now with a medium to long-term perspective. Regular contacts should be maintained where there are informal dialogues functioning at Governmental level.

TIMELINE ENVISAGED

The role of Transatlantic Week in 2022 and 2023 will be critical to the overall process, bringing together all Network members on these occasions will facilitate the opportunity to review progress and collectively input into work being done in each of the sectors identified above. This will allow regular interim reporting on progress to date, challenges encountered, and emerging opportunities. A final report will be submitted by Transatlantic Week 2024.

**Outline for the Substantive Phase of the TA 2030 Vision Project
Key Issues to Address for the Period 2021-2024**

(Annex 1)

1. Digital Transformation:

- **Data privacy, cross-border data flows, storage, and transfer;**
- **Joint support for emerging technology R&D e.g., 5G, AI;**
- **Avoiding protectionist approaches to tech sovereignty;**
- *Strengthening democracy, including regulation of social media platforms;*
- *Strengthening common action on cyber security;*
- *Narrowing inequalities to develop skilled workforces; and*
- *Work together on international standard setting.*

The Aim: The Partnership should commit to achieving close understandings, legal coordination, and joint actions on digital transformation essential for advancing their national interests and taking a leadership role in managing the global economy.

2. Economy and trade:

- **Coordination of post-Covid 19 recovery strategies, including vaccines,**
- **competition policy principles for setting a post-Covid 19 level playing field;**
- **Building trust by resolving outstanding bilateral trade issues;**
- **Find common ground on WTO reform; and**
- **Rapid resolution between the EU/US on global digital taxation (OECD negotiations)**
- **Shaping a joint EU/US jobs and growth agenda, identifying common areas where EU and US joint approaches can drive global solutions;**
- *Establish a framework for operating the post-Brexit triangle, US-EU-UK;*
- *Develop ideas on improving post-crisis supply chains issues, e.g., access to materials and barriers to moving necessary goods;*
- *Review appropriate trade policies in defence of national security; and*
- *Examine competition rules for innovation-driven industrial policy (or policies)*

The Aim: The Partnership should build a broad enough platform of agreement and joint action to promote a swift and balanced global recovery from the pandemic. Furthermore, rebuild and revitalize multinational institutions and establish international rules and agreements to clear the way for a Transatlantic Market by 2030.

3. Sustainability and Climate Change:

- ***Pursue agreement on complementary policy frameworks for green growth, carbon reduction projects, the circular economy, and achieving efficient resources management; and***
- ***Work with the US to implement the objectives of the Paris agreement;***
- ***Deepen and encourage sub-national cooperation on climate change;***

- *Encourage the US and Europe to be effective partners in promoting the UN's sustainable development goals; and*
- *Develop Interoperable Green Technological Standards*

The Aim: The Partnership should join forces on the development, manufacturing, and use of technologies for enhancing sustainability and the achievement of the UN's SDG goals, hopefully bringing the US back into the Paris Agreement.

4. Security:

- ***Examine what relationship with NATO will maximise the Partnership's security and global influence;***
- *Discuss how Europe take on a bigger financial and material share of defence against military and cyber security threats;*
- *Review how Europe's soft power be deployed more effectively in support of common security objectives;*
- *Constrain Russia in its use of disruptive and threatening military policies and technologies; and*
- *Integrate Defense Procurement.*

The Aim: The Partnership should achieve a satisfactory balance of contributions to mutual defence and security that serves common strategies for maximizing cooperation and minimizing conflict with China and Russia.

5. Political:

- ***Develop a common EU/US Strategy towards China;***
- ***Take joint action for renewing and revitalising multilateral institutions (UN, WTO, WHO, etc)***
- *Build bridges between non-governmental groups across the Atlantic, e.g., in education;*
- *Take joint action for renewing and revitalising multilateral institutions (UN, WTO, WHO, etc); and*
- *Focus on how to assist reconstruction in the lower and lower-middle economies in Africa and elsewhere.*

The Aim: The Partnership should encourage building networks that will better enable the achievement of TA Partnership 2030 as the indispensable vehicle for defending and advancing western political and social values, mutual security, and social and economic progress for the 21st century.