



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

MEMO

Brussels, 28 February 2014

VP Tajani in New York to discuss investment prospects between Europe and the United States

European Commission Vice President Antonio Tajani will travel to New York on 28 February 2014 to participate in a conference on the economic future of the European Union and the United States and bilateral investment opportunities. The event, organised by Destinazione Italia and the Italian Business & Investment Initiative, will discuss transatlantic economic and growth prospects, including expectations from the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) currently under negotiation. Italy's capacity to benefit from closer transatlantic ties and to further attract investment in the aftermath of the economic slowdown will also be addressed during the conference.

Together, the European Union and the United States account for close to half of the world's GDP (47%) and one third of global trade flows. Each day, two billion euros of goods and services are traded bilaterally.

Recognising the strong integration of the EU and US economies, Antonio Tajani, in charge of the Industry and Entrepreneurship portfolio, will participate in a panel discussion to look at current opportunities and challenges to strengthen economic recovery, to promote sustainable growth and job creation and to support the competitiveness of our industries on both sides of the Atlantic.

The growth potential of a comprehensive and ambitious TTIP agreement will no doubt be at the centre of the discussions. A future agreement is expected to create new business opportunities and will eventually benefit workers and consumer on both sides.

The United States and the European Union have engaged in unprecedented efforts to develop the cutting-edge industries of the future and to re-localise their manufacturing capacity. Both sides are also pursuing parallel agendas to promote innovation and skills, albeit through different means and policies. The debate will therefore provide an opportunity to exchange experiences and to learn from each other as regards the best way to devise business-friendly policies conducive to investment, growth and jobs.

Participants invited to exchange with Vice President Tajani will include Gary Hart, former US senator and recognised international analyst, as well as David Thorne, former US Ambassador to Italy and currently senior advisor to Secretary of State John Kerry. David Thorne is notably responsible for promoting entrepreneurship, technology and innovation in the US State Department's policies.

For more information:

[Europe, US and Italy Conference: "Europe: a museum or an investment opportunity"](#)

[Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership](#)

[Website of Vice President Antonio Tajani](#)