

TTIP and SME's

(useful references and links, with some quotes, compiled by Dr Henry Adams, Kendal)

NB: New website: **Business Against TTIP** www.businessagainstttip.org – launched in January 2016 by Titus Sharpe – 2015 Entrepreneur of the Year, and other business-people.

18jan16 **Here is how TTIP threatens small businesses in the UK** – Titus Sharpe - The Independent <http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/here-is-how-ttip-threatens-small-businesses-in-the-uk-a6819131.html>
“As 2015 Entrepreneur of the Year I am firmly against TTIP and the strain it will place on home grown business owners” ...”...TTIP is a [major threat](#) to small and medium-sized business in the UK and Europe. And that's why I've joined with other British business owners to launch the initiative, [Business Against TTIP](#).”... “TTIP places our businesses under threat: it will force us into unfair competition with US firms with lower standards and lower costs, with the predicted loss of at least [680,000 jobs](#) across Europe. We know that TTIP means our higher European standards are under threat undermining the social, health and environmental standards that we enjoy in Europe.”

18jan16 **UK businesses say “no” to EU-US trade deal** - bilaterals.org <http://www.bilaterals.org/?uk-businesses-say-no-to-eu-us&lang=en>

“Business Against TTIP believes that due to TTIP’s agenda of unfair competition, deregulation and ‘corporate courts’, the deal is a grave threat to UK businesses, standards and democracy itself. ...

Titus Sharpe, CEO of MVF Global and Entrepreneur of the Year 2015, said:

“This deal has been created with predominantly large American corporate interests in mind and will have a negative impact on small and medium sized British business. This deal puts large corporate interests ahead of our government and democracy. It’s imperative we stop this deal happening for the sake of the British economy.

Ben Goldsmith, Menhaden Capital PLC, Chair of Conservative Environment Network, said:

“TTIP is very different to a normal trade deal. It is profoundly hypocritical of our current government to highlight threats to UK sovereignty while also promoting TTIP within Europe. I am supporting Business Against TTIP because I believe it is vital that small and medium sized companies join this conversation.””

17jan16 **NEW REPORT: UK small business under threat from TTIP** - War On Want

<http://www.waronwant.org/media/new-report-uk-small-business-under-threat-ttip>

Re the new Business against TTIP, WonW write that “Thousands of firms have already signed up to parallel anti-TTIP websites in Germany, Austria and the Netherlands.” ... “TTIP will grant US corporations greater access to the markets of Europe without having to comply with the same level of social and environmental regulation as in the EU, according to the report. Official predictions calculate that this unfair competition will result in the loss of at least 680,000 jobs across Europe.” ...” Only a tiny minority (0.5%) of UK small businesses are involved in the export of goods to the US market, according to official figures, while most are more concerned with protecting their home markets.”.

Links to:

Rough Trade: The threat of TTIP to small businesses in the UK - War On Want

<http://www.waronwant.org/resources/rough-trade-threat-ttip-small-businesses-uk>

“The controversial EU-US trade deal TTIP seeks to grant US corporations greater access to the markets of Europe without complying with EU social and environmental standards. This report reveals how such unfair competition will result in the loss of thousands of small businesses across Europe, and at least 680,000 jobs. It also charts the rising opposition to TTIP within the business community, including the launch of [Business Against TTIP](#).”

“TTIP was crafted by and for big business. The overwhelming majority of European small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) do not engage in trade outside the EU, and only a tiny minority (0.7%) export to the USA.

According to the European Commission’s survey for TTIP, less than 0.5% of UK small businesses are engaged in the export of goods to US markets. Most small businesses are more concerned with protecting their own markets than conquering the States.

There is now growing opposition to TTIP among European SMEs.

Thousands of individual businesses have signed up to ‘SMEs Against TTIP’ platforms in Austria, Germany and the Netherlands. The Business Against TTIP campaign was launched in the UK at the beginning of 2016 by a number of businesspeople concerned at

the threat posed by TTIP, including the 2015 Entrepreneur of the Year. Several national associations of SMEs have expressed concern at the dangers posed by TTIP to their members’ interests.”

“...the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) admitted that there is no evidence that SMEs will benefit from TTIP, and that it is therefore difficult to produce positive case studies to bring small businesses on board.

Those responsible for the interests of small businesses are even more candid. Speaking at a public forum in Cardiff in June 2015 on the potential impact of TTIP on his members’ interests, Iestyn Davies, Senior Head of External Affairs at the Federation of Small

Businesses, stated bluntly: “Are we convinced this is going to be a good deal? No.”

18jan16 **TTIP threatens EU environmental goals, green business leaders warn** – Jocelyn Timperley - BusinessGreen <http://m.businessgreen.com/bg/news/2442048/ttip-threatens-eu-environmental-goals-green-business-leaders-warn>

20nov15 **A transatlantic agreement but at what cost to SMEs? The potential effects of the United States / Europe free trade agreement (TTIP) on local economies and SMEs** - Veblen Institute for Economic Reforms, Movement for responsibility in Trade Agreements, Paris www.veblen-institute.org @VeblenInstitute - November 2015
http://www.veblen-institute.org/IMG/pdf/smes_and_ttip_vebleninstitute_eng_20_nov_2015.pdf

FARMING: And of course the impact on small farmers will most likely be negative, as TTIP will favour US industrial-scale farming such as in the US: www.bit.ly/TTIPfarming

19jan16: My email letter to **Tim Farron MP** making him aware of the views of SME’s who are against TTIP, which is largely a subset of the present document: (pdf)

<http://www.dragonfly1.plus.com/TTIP&SMEs-19jan16emailfromHenryAdamstoTimFarronMP.pdf>

In my first sentence the word ‘dictate’ wasn’t quite the one I was after, but a more accurately nuanced word describing the institutionalization of corporate lobbying escaped me. However the excellent document I link to by Glyn Moody explains the threat well.

More information on TTIP: <http://www.dragonfly1.plus.com/STOP-TTIP-South-Lakes.html>

Online url of present document, created by Dr Henry Adams, Kendal:
<http://www.dragonfly1.plus.com/TTIP&SMEs.pdf>