

TRANSATLANTIC POLICY NETWORK (TPN)

The Partnership Report

N° 1 – June 2004

Pursuing our historic purpose: TPN's Strategy to Strengthen Transatlantic Partnership

Last December, TPN tabled a 10-point, 10-year Action Plan to Strengthen Transatlantic Partnership. This document was initiated by TPN in May 2002 and was the result of concern about the direction and lack of any well thought out guidelines for shape a long-term strategy to promote transatlantic partnership. It is the fruit of 18 months of intense consultation and reflection on both sides of the Atlantic.

This first *Partnership Report* focuses on the high level support that has already been generated over the past year for a number of TPN's strategic recommendations, particularly the growing chorus of voices calling for a barrier-free transatlantic market. The multiplying effect of ideas raised at TPN discussions has, in the brief period since the Strategy's launch, helped to highlight their importance to key leadership figures on both sides of the Atlantic. This focus on how TPN's recommendations are influencing the formal agenda will be a feature of all future editions of the *Partnership Report*.

Additionally, this edition of the *Report* contains an overview of the process by which the *Strategy* recommendations were produced. The purpose is to acquaint newcomers to the Outreach Exercise with a brief but comprehensive background, and to highlight the exceptional depth and breadth of the political, governmental, academic and business participation upon which these recommendations are founded. It is this support that makes TPN's vision the most reliable roadmap available to transatlantic leaders heading into this June's intense agenda of transatlantic summits.

The network is continuing to mobilise support for active participation in the completion of the transatlantic market, the development of a new Transatlantic Partnership Agreement, and a number of other TPN recommendations over the course of the upcoming summer Summit season. Partnership Report Number 2 will focus on which TPN recommendations were moved closer towards implementation at the Summits, and provide an overview of the network's first efforts in benchmarking progress to be made with new or renewed EU and US administrations and legislatures in 2005.

TPN WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS WARM THANKS FOR THEIR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION, SUPPORT AND INVOLVEMENT TO ITS MEMBERS AND THE GERMAN MARSHALL FUND OF THE UNITED STATES

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SUPPORT GENERATED FOR TPN RECOMMENDATIONS

Set out below are examples of support generated among transatlantic leaders over the past year for TPN's recommendations for strengthening the economic, defence and security, political and institutional aspects of the transatlantic partnership.

TRANSATLANTIC ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

12 June 2003: European Parliament Resolution on a Renewed Transatlantic Relationship for the third Millennium

- Submitted by EP Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Elmar Brok following the dissemination of the Outreach Exercise Interim Report. The resolution proposes a “EU-US Framework Treaty including the completion of a ‘Transatlantic Market’” as a project needed “to enhance not only the political discussion but also the economic and social elements of the partnership.”

29 June 2003: Henry Hyde's Speech in Rome

- Chairman of the US House Committee on International Relations Henry Hyde, in his closing remarks at the annual Transatlantic Legislators Dialogue Meeting in Rome, stressed the need for a “Transatlantic Economic Framework with the free movement of goods, services and investments. . . providing for the growth of our economies, enhanced security for our citizens and the full employment of our workers.”

15 September 2003: Henry Hyde's Speech in Chicago

- In his remarks at the Chicago Conference on the Global Economy, Chairman Hyde pointed out that the American “economic relationship with Europe receives too little attention relative to its importance and that our focus on other regions may be inadvertently diverting us from the benefits to be obtained from closer cooperation across the Atlantic.”
- Hyde called for the establishment of “a true Atlantic Marketplace” and urged the EU and US to “convene a high-level meeting of our respective regulatory policy-makers and regulatory bodies to try to establish common objectives in regulation and devise a process of formulating complementary regulations.”

13 January 2004: Jose Maria Aznar's Speech in Washington

- Spanish President José Maria Aznar, affiliated with TPN through its strong base of support in the European Parliament, outlined a proposal at a meeting of the US Chamber of Commerce in Washington DC calling for “an action plan pinpointing existing economic, trade or regulatory obstacles between the United States and Europe” to be “done away with” by 2015.

6 April 2004: Leadership Statement of the Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue

- TLD chair Congresswoman Jo Ann Davis, Congressman Henry Hyde, Chairman of the House Committee on International Relations, and MEP Jim Nicholson, Chairman of the European Parliamentary Delegation to the US jointly signed a statement calling for a barrier-free transatlantic market by 2015.
- The TLD leaders concluded their statement with a call upon participants in the June EU-US summit in Dublin to work towards increasing public awareness about the current transatlantic market, and to craft a plan for completion of the market.

22 April 2004: European Parliament Resolution on the state of the Transatlantic Partnership

- The European Parliament recommended “the launching of a 10-year Action Plan aimed at deepening and broadening the transatlantic market, as well as the transatlantic economy and monetary cooperation, with the goal of a barrier-free transatlantic market by 2015,” and asked the 26 June EU-US Summit “to set up a body of experts to elaborate specific proposals to this end.”

22 April 2004: Transatlantic Business Dialogue Recommendation

- The TABD submitted recommendations to the 26 June EU-US summit in Ireland which outlines towards “establishing a Barrier-Free Transatlantic Market”.
- The TABD also stressed the importance of moving “forward on the WTO Doha Development Agenda with a sense of urgency and focus.”

TRANSATLANTIC DEFENCE AND SECURITY PARTNERSHIP

22 April 2004: European Parliament Resolution on the state of the Transatlantic Partnership

- The European Parliament stressed NATO’s importance in transatlantic stability, and stated “that it is in the interest of the Transatlantic Partnership and the world’s stability to strengthen both NATO’s and the EU’s capabilities.”
- The Parliament also requested a framework for better “EU-US security dialogue,” in particular in regards to “open discussions on conceptual differences.”

TRANSATLANTIC POLITICAL PARTNERSHIP

5 November 2003: House of Representatives Resolution 390

- Introduced by Nebraska Congressman and President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly Doug Bereuter, HR 390, recognising the global threats posed by terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, calls for the transatlantic partnership to be “expanded progressively from a transatlantic community of values to an effective transatlantic community of action by developing a collaborative strategy and action plan for dealing with those challenges of mutual interest and concern.”

22 April 2004: European Parliament Resolution on the state of the Transatlantic Partnership

- The European Parliament proposed, “to build a transatlantic ‘community of action’ for regional and global cooperation.” As part of this proposal, the need was stressed, “to pursue the necessary reforms in the countries of the ‘wider Middle East’ jointly,” and the “launching of a joint Action Plan for the Fight on Terrorism” was recommended.
- The Parliament also called for “practical cooperation on energy and climate change with regard, in particular, to the Kyoto Protocol, building on the agreement on R&D cooperation for the hydrogen economy.”

TRANSATLANTIC INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIP

22 April 2004: European Parliament Resolution on the state of the Transatlantic Partnership

- The Parliament recommended “regular informal EU-US consultation at ministerial level in advance of EU-US summits” as well as strengthening institutional structures by “building on the evolving Transatlantic Legislators’ Dialogue between Members of the European Parliament and the US Congress.”
- Ultimately, the Parliament believes that by December 2005, there should be an “agreement between the transatlantic partners to update the 1995 New Transatlantic Agenda, replacing it with a ‘Transatlantic Partnership Agreement,’ to be implemented from 2007.

TPN'S OUTREACH EXERCISE: A BRIEF OVERVIEW

Set out below is a brief overview of the development of TPN's Outreach Exercise, the process which led to the creation of TPN's *Strategy to Strengthen Transatlantic Partnership*.

May 2002: Creation of the "Outreach Exercise"

Participants in TPN's 2002 Spring Meeting in Tucson concur that the rift in transatlantic relations is worrisome and growing. It is therefore agreed to use TPN's unique network of political, business, academic and media leaders to create a long-term strategy and action plan for strengthening transatlantic partnership. The "Outreach Exercise" is approved, with Congressman Cal Dooley, Senator Bob Bennett, James Elles MEP and Erika Mann MEP as Co-Chairs

July 2002: Outreach kick-off

The Outreach Exercise begins with working session of TPN Members in Brussels. A summary is prepared for participants in the US kick-off, six days later in Washington. Visiting MEPs meet with Vice President Dick Cheney and USTR Robert Zoellick to discuss the state of Transatlantic Relations and introduce the TPN project. After the U.S. meetings, EU and US contributions are integrated into a single working document.

Invitations are sent to leaders of TPN's Cooperating Institutions, inviting collaboration in the Outreach Exercise and producing a strong response.

Sept/Oct 2002: First draft Outreach document

Co-chairs meet to review issue priorities emerging from the first round of inputs, and to plan next steps. They agree to proceed with a draft final report outline and draft conclusions, which are then circulated to selected TPN members for initial comment, and revised accordingly.

Nov/Dec 2002 – Q1 2003: Wider consultation & revision

During this period, TPN members of the US Congress visit Berlin, Strasbourg and Paris to review the state of transatlantic relations with government and business leaders, while working meetings of the network are held in Brussels and Washington. At the same time, the first Outreach draft is circulated to the wider TPN network, and then revised to take account of input from all these activities.

April 2003: Mid Year Meeting & interim report

TPN's 2003 Mid Year Meeting in Spain reviews the draft document over three days. The text is revised, and an Interim Report on key conclusions approved by the Co-Chairs is widely distributed to TPN members, friends and media.

May/June/July 2003: Further consultation & revision

Roundtable discussions are held in Brussels and Washington. The draft document is revised, and includes, for the first time, proposed strategy recommendations and a 10-point, 10-year action plan.

July 2003: MEP Visit to the US

Roundtables cover key outreach issues including; digital economy (with the US Congressional Internet Caucus and the European Internet Foundation), financial services, EU-US Parliamentary Dialogue, the transatlantic market, transatlantic aviation issues and the competitive market for transatlantic manufacturers. A follow-up meeting is held with Vice President Cheney to report on Outreach progress and emerging conclusion.

Sept-Dec 2003: Final consultations, adoption, leadership summit, autumn meeting

Five final roundtables are held in Brussels and Washington, leading to a proposed final text for review by the Co-Chairs, who give final approval on November 27th.

A TPN Leadership Summit meeting in Washington on December 5 gives broad support to the TPN strategy and action plan. Participants include, notably: Outreach Co-Chairs and other TPN Members of the US Senate and House and the European Parliament, EU Commissioner for External Relations Chris Patten, US Administration officials including USTR Robert Zoellick and Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage, Ambassadors Rockwell Schnabel (Head of the US Mission to the EU) and Gunter Burghardt (Head of the European Commission Delegation in Washington), and the US and EU Co-Chairs of the Transatlantic Business Dialogue (TABD).

The TPN annual Autumn Meeting following the leadership summit adopts the *Strategy to Strengthen Transatlantic Partnership* document and develops mobilization plans to build wider support.

IN THE NEXT PARTNERSHIP REPORT

June 2004 will be a month of intense transatlantic summitry. It begins with the 60th commemoration of the allied landings in Normandy on 6 June, then goes to Sea Island, Georgia, for the G8 summit from the 8-10 June, on to Ireland for the EU/US Summit on 26 June, and finally to Istanbul for the NATO summit.

TPN *Partnership Report No. 2* will assess the state of transatlantic relations and progress on our recommendations following these events. It will also provide an overview of the Network's first efforts in bench-marking progress to be made with new or renewed EU and US administrations and legislatures in 2005.