

Workshop on “EU’s new trade strategy and Inter-regionalism”

Date: 19-20 Dec.2016,

Venue: EUTW, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan

Introduction to the Workshop:

As the coordinating institution of Jean Monnet Transnational Network 2015-2018, the EU Centre in Taiwan (EUTW) will jointly with Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence at National Taiwan University and European Union Centre in Singapore hold an international workshop on EU’s new trade policy in Taipei on 19-20 December 2016. This workshop aims at discussing EU’s new trade strategy, the most recent development of the EU- Canada CETA and the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and trade relations between the EU and Asia-Pacific countries. Twelve conference papers shall be presented.

European Commission published its newest policy paper, *Trade for All*, in October 2015. Though it deliberately pointed out the importance in reinvigorating multilateral trade system with WTO at the core, it is clear that EU now put its real emphasis upon the rising inter-regional trade negotiations and concluded that EU-Korea FTA was a fruitful success. On the one hand, it aimed at making CETA with Canada approved as early as possible and completing the trans-Atlantic trade deals with the US. On the other hand, it regarded the conclusion of EU-Japan FTA as a “strategic priority” and EU-PRC BIA (Bilateral Investment Agreement) as a “top priority” towards any deepening of their bilateral relationship. It was even ready to open or resume negotiations on FTA with India and a majority of countries in ASEAN. Even a BIA with Taiwan was promised. This inter-regionalism approach seems to have dominated EU’s external and trade policies in its global engagement.

EU’s rising inter-regionalist approach echoed well the rise of inter-regionalist engagements of other powers. The Russia-initiated Eurasian Economic Union was formally established in January 2015, the US-led negotiations on TTP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) were concluded in October 2015, and the treaty establishing the China-centered AIIB (Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank) entered into effect two months later. It seems that these rising inter-regional schemes are shaping the new world order.

Objectives of the Workshop:

The objective of this workshop is to bring together the distinguished scholars recommended by the partner institutions of Jean Monnet Transnational Network in North America, Asia-Pacific and Europe to discuss what they understand by EU’s new trade strategy as well as EU’s engagements in the ongoing negotiations on Trans-Atlantic and EU-Asian trade deals. At the end of workshop, we intend to know better the following topics.

- What are the key elements of EU's new trade strategy? What distinguishes it from EU's earlier trade policies? How could this new strategy cooperate with EU's other policies as well as member states' national strategies?
- What could be the characteristics and potential impact of the Trans-Atlantic trade deals upon the global trade, economic and even political orders?
- Will this new trade strategy lead to birth of a new Asian policy of the EU? Are there any common points in EU's trade negotiations respectively with Japan, PRC, ASEAN countries and India? Or they are very different from each other and why?

In order to achieve these objectives, we plan to hold a one and half-a-day workshop on 19 and 20 December 2016, divided into three panels and one roundtable. We plan to inaugurate this workshop on Monday morning of 19 Dec. which will end before lunch on Tuesday 20 Dec. 2016. Each paper presenter shall present a 5000-6000 word paper at the workshop.

Panel one: EU's New Trade Strategy

Panel two: EU and Trans-Atlantic Trade Deals

Panel three: EU and EU-Asian Countries' Trade Deals

Roundtable: EU's New Trade Strategy, inter-regionalist approaches and EU-Taiwan Trade Relations

Timetable

- 1 July 2016 Deadline of submission of titles of participants' papers
- 1 December 2016 Deadline of submission of the papers and powerpoints for presentation

The tentative agenda

18 December 2016 (Sunday)

Whole Day	Arrival of overseas participants
1900	Welcome Reception (Cocktail Buffet)

19 December 2016 (Monday)

0830 – 0900	Registration
0900 – 0920	Welcome remarks Pan-Chyr Yang (President, National Taiwan University, Taiwan) Hungdah Su (Director General, European Union Centre in Taiwan)
0920 – 1000	Keynote speech Minister of Foreign Affairs, ROC (Taiwan) TBA
1000 – 1030	Coffee Break
1030 – 1230	<i>Session 1 EU's New Trade Strategy</i>

	Moderator:
1230 –1400	Lunch Buffet Luncheon Speech
	<i>Session 2 EU and Trans-Atlantic Trade Deals</i>
1400 – 1600	Moderator:
1600 – 1630	Coffee Break
	<i>Session 3 EU and EU-Asian Countries' Trade Deals</i>
1630 – 1830	Moderator:
1830– 2000	Welcome Dinner

20 December 2016 (Tuesday)

0930 – 1000	Registration
	<i>Roundtable EU's New Trade Strategy, inter-regionalist approaches and EU-Taiwan Trade Relations</i>
1000 – 1200	Moderator:
1200 –1400	Lunch Buffet