



Press Release



The European Parliament's TTIP recommendations contain both progress and setbacks

9 July 2015

The European Trade Union Committee for Education (ETUCE) - the European Region of Education International, representing 11 million teachers and education workers in Europe welcomes the progress achieved for the protection of public services in TTIP as the language of the INTA report remained unchanged, which calls for the exclusion of all current and future public services. Furthermore, the recommendations detail that it must be ensured that *“national and local authorities retain the full right to introduce, adopt, maintain or repeal any measures with regard to the commissioning, organisation, funding and provision of public services,....this exclusion should apply irrespective of how the services are provided and funded”*. In addition, yesterday's vote adopted an amendment to protect with a general clause all education services that receive public funding to any degree or state support in any form.

Martin Rømer, ETUCE European Director stated: *“The EP's recommendations on TTIP regarding public services makes clear that the EP wants a clear protection of public services, including education, in TTIP and this demand needs to be seriously taken on board by the European Commission as the TTIP negotiators meet in Brussels next week for the 10th round of negotiation.”*

The [European Parliament's recommendations on TTIP](#) were adopted with 436 in favour, 241 against and 32 abstentions on 8 July 2015. The recommendations included, however, also setbacks as an ambiguous amendment on the contentious ISDS (Investor-State Dispute Settlement) was adopted.

Martin Rømer, ETUCE European Director said: *It is regrettable that the European Parliament today voted to support a reformed ISDS provision that is a deeply flawed mechanism and which gives multinationals special legal privileges that are not granted to citizens. The ETUCE will continue to fight against any kind of ISDS provision in TTIP and other trade agreements”*.



The European Trade Union Committee for Education (ETUCE) represents 131 Teacher Unions and 11 million teachers in all countries of Europe, 4.2 million teachers in the EU, from all levels of the education sector. ETUCE is a Social Partner in education at the EU level and a European Trade Union Federation within ETUC, the European Trade Union Confederation. ETUCE is the European Region of **Education International**, the global federation of teacher unions.

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