

Coalition Meeting on EU-Vietnam FTA 9 January 2020 (10h – 11:30h)

Participants

- Amfori
- Clepa
- CEEV (European Wine Industry)
- SpiritsEurope
- FESI
- Digital Europe
- AmCham EU
- Eurochambres
- ACEA
- EuroCommerce
- EFPIA
- CELCAA

Recent Developments

- Various NGOs have approached MEPs with reports about human rights violations and alleged bad labour conditions. Apparently today (9 January) the coordinators meeting could request to postpone the vote in the INTA (originally scheduled for 21 January).
- The Vietnamese Prime Minister wrote a letter to Bernd Lange ([attached to this email](#)) in which he committed to the protection of human rights.
- FESI had meeting with Greens (Hautala and others) and they were not opposed to the agreement.
- Amcham met Geert Bourgeois (Zahradil successor) and he seemed to be in favour of the agreement.
- Next week Vietnamese people from the Vietnamese embassy will go to Strasbourg for some meetings with S&D and far right party people. (10 of them in the INTA)
- Until now the European Commission is very quiet on the topic and not making an effort to convince the MEPs.

Preparation of the event (28 January, 17:30h - 19:30h)

- The brochure is ready and was handed out during the meeting. The FESI trainee will distribute it to the postboxes of the MEPs.
- CELCAA contacted the new rapporteur (Bourgeois) and this week he accepted to host the conference. However, his office will not contribute to the preparation. The room is booked – Room E5 (big room for more than 100 people). Bourgeois wants interpretations in 3 languages and ECR may bear the costs for it.
- Yesterday (8 January) MEP Bourgeois sent a letter to Commissioner Hogan's cabinet to enquire whether he will be able to speak. Commissioner Hogan until now did not really show a commitment for the conference. Unfortunately, neither Sabine Weyand nor Helena König are available at the date of the conference.
- Pascal Lamy works for a consultancy now (Brunswick) and it would be too costly to book him. Instead of him, Mr. Fraser Cameron, Director at the EU-Asia Center (think tank) would be a solution. Pascale Rouhier will kindly approach him.
- CELCAA will contact the assistants of MEP Bourgeois to explore whether they can take care of the registration for the event. If necessary, Candela from Spirits Europe will assist on that.
- CEEV will draft an invitation letter for the Vietnamese Minister.
- FESI will send an invitation letter to the ILO speaker for the conference
- FESI will draft a poster for the event.
- All MEPs should be invited to the event.

- The group decides not to have a reception after the event as dealing with the administration in the EP (Sodexo) will be too burdensome.
- For the time being the date of the planned conference will remain on 28 January, but we might change it in case the MEPs decide to postpone the vote in the INTA (and the plenary accordingly). If Commissioner Hogan accepts the invitation to speak the date will remain the same no matter what the MEPs decide.
- FESI will draft a few bullet points with key arguments for the agreement and everyone will be asked to add on it
- The attendants were asked to please retweet Social media the tweets of Spirits Europe on the agreement.
- **Next Coalition Meeting: Friday, 17 January at 9:30h – 11h at CEEV Offices, Avenue des Arts 43, 1040 Bruxelles.**