



European Committee
of the Regions

Workshop of the Commission for Economic Policy on

International trade and globalisation – Implications for regional growth, employment and industrial renewal

European Committee of the Regions, 101 Rue Belliard, Brussels

22 January 2018, 15:00-17:30, room JDE 51

In the midst of growing concern about the local and regional impact of international trade and globalisation, and evidence that some local economies and communities lack resilience in the face of the economic and technological pressures that are driving change across a wide range of industries, the European Commission has recently adopted a series of policy documents, including the Trade Package and a Communication on a renewed EU Industrial Policy Strategy. The Commission reaffirms therein its commitment to developing a balanced, rules-based, fair and progressive trade and investment agenda and also places particular emphasis on renewing European industry, which remains an important pillar of the economy and source of jobs.

The workshop will be an opportunity to look into how international trade and global value chains impact regional/local economies and shape industry in the EU, in the context of the wider factors that underpin EU manufacturing trends. Issues that will be explored include the possible links between trade, industry specialisation, regional competitiveness and regional inequalities. After the presentation of the main findings of the study on *Interactions between Trade, Investment and Trends in the EU Industry: EU regions in international trade* conducted by the European Parliamentary Research Service, a panel debate will focus on the possible avenues for making trade and globalisation work as an engine for regional growth, employment and industrial renewal.

14:30-15:00 **Registration**

15:00-15:10 **Welcome**
Jiří Buriánek, Secretary-General of the European Committee of the Regions

15:10-15:30 **Setting the scene**

Key findings of the EPRS study on *Interactions between Trade, Investment and Trends in the EU Industry - EU regions in international trade*

Monika Nogaj, Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Parliamentary Research Services, External Policies Unit: Introductory remarks

Laura Puccio, Policy Analyst, European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS):
Presentation of the key findings



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15:30-17:00 **Panel debate. Key challenges for EU trade and industrial policy and the quest for fairness and inclusiveness**

Moderator **Bert Kuby**, Head of Unit, Commission for Economic Policy (ECON), European Committee of the Regions

Panellists Keynote speaker: **Alexander C. Lembecke**, Economist and Policy Analyst in the OECD's Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Local Development and Tourism (CFE)
Productivity and jobs in a globalised world: (How) Can all regions benefit?

Lucian Cernat, Head of Unit, Chief Economist and Trade Analysis, DG Trade, European Commission

Philippe de Taxis du Poët, Unit for International Affairs, Directorate for Competitiveness and European Semester, DG for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission

Petros Fassoulas, Secretary General, European Movement International

17:00-17:20 **Q&A**

17:20-17:30 **Closing remarks: Thomas Wobben**, Director Legislative Works, European Committee of the Regions