



UNITED STATES COUNCIL FOR
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

SEEKING COMMON CAUSE 2025: THE FUTURE OF TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONS

**US Council for International Business (USCIB) and
The Transatlantic Policy Network (TPN) Seminar**

Wednesday 19 February 2025, 09:00-17:45

Stanhope Hotel, 9 Rue du Commerce, 1000 Brussels

OBJECTIVE:

The year 2025 will be a critical one with respect to transatlantic relations as both sides launch new governments and policies impacting the two largest economies with \$1.3 trillion in bilateral trade. Both will experience new leadership with new perspectives on the partnership. This event will discuss the potential flashpoints in the economic relationship but also where the two sides can collaborate to solve ongoing problems in the global arena. It will provide companies with a better sightline on the economic priorities, legislative and regulatory actions and where industry can work with the governments to promote common cause.

PROGRAM:

09:00-9:15 hrs Welcome

09:15-10:45 hrs Panel 1:

The Transatlantic Relationship in 2025: Same Challenges, New Realities

The year 2025 marks a new chapter in US-European relations with the onset of a new European Parliament, new European Commission and the return Donald Trump to the US Presidency. Yet both the EU and US share common challenges – fostering competitiveness; driving innovation and manufacturing transformation; and promoting national and global security. With the incoming Trump Administration threatening tariffs against the EU for trade and other concerns, cooperation to solve common problems may be strained and the bilateral bedrock of stable trade and investment may be shaken. What is the future of the Transatlantic relationship, and will allies find partnership in 2025?

11:00-12:30 hrs Panel 2:

Transatlantic Competitiveness: The Costs, Risks and Future of Regulation

The US and EU strive to create economic conditions where businesses thrive, the environment is protected, and workers have an equal chance at success. But they approach these goals differently, with a marked divergence on regulatory measures. A recent report by Mario Draghi, former European Central Bank President, faults inconsistent and overly restrictive regulations for handicapping EU companies and hindering growth. While the US is blamed for regulatory inaction, particularly in the digital and climate space. This panel will explore the business approach to competitiveness challenges in the EU and US and opportunities for collaboration.

12:45-2:15 hrs Lunch Keynote/Fireside Chat

14:30-16:00 hrs Panel 3:

Competition vs Collaboration: What's Next on Digital

An important goal of the US-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC) was aligning policies and practices with respect to digital issues, yielding new partnerships on emerging issues such as artificial intelligence and 6G telecommunications networks. With the outlook for the TTC in question, what is the future for digital cooperation and will a new US Administration reengage on digital trade on the global stage?

16:15-17:45 hrs Panel 4:

How to Bridge US-EU Policies Toward China

The US and EU economies are under strain from Beijing's non-market practices – unfair import competition, subsidies, technology transfer, intellectual property theft, and more. As tensions between with China grow, where will the US and EU continue to work together to confront distortions and de-risk, including through alignment on export controls, investment screening and economic sanctions. How will WTO consistency factor into policy choices?

18:00-19:30 hrs Cocktail Reception