Proposal: Building Public Trust and Accountability in EU and U.S. Trade Policy

DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO THE UNITED STATES

Transatlantic Research and Debates
2014-2015

DEADLINE: 5:00PM, September 12, 2013

PROPOSAL NARRATIVE FORM

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<tr>
<th>Name of the applicants:</th>
<th>George Washington University</th>
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<td>Title of the action:</td>
<td>Building Public Trust and Accountability in EU and U.S. Trade Policy</td>
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<td>Start Date and End Date of Project:</td>
<td>January 1, 2014-August 31, 2015</td>
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<td>Contact Details for Project Principal Investigator:</td>
<td>Susan Aaronson, Ph.D. <a href="mailto:saaronso@gwu.edu">saaronso@gwu.edu</a> 202-994-7974, 703-532-5158</td>
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<tr>
<td>Signature of Project Principal Investigator:</td>
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Summary Overview of the Project. *Briefly summarize the major themes and activities of the proposed project, and explain how those activities will address the concerns set out in the Call for Proposals. Be sure to identify any activities that will be delegated to sub-contractors. Attach additional page(s) if necessary.*

**Topics Covered**

Strengthening policy dialogue related to trade and regulation, enhancing trust and transparency in TTIP

**Project Summary**

In July 2013, the U.S. and the 28 member states of the European Union (EU) began negotiating the world’s largest free trade agreement. The OECD reports that if the two trade behemoths can find common ground on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), the free trade agreement (FTA) would cover some 50 percent of global output and 20 percent of global foreign investment.

For a number of reasons, the FTA could have a significant influence on governance as well as trade and investment flows. First, the purview of the negotiation is path breaking. Because traditional trade barriers between the two partners are already low, U.S. and EU officials want to reduce trade distortions associated with a wide range of domestic regulations such as data protection, food safety, and the environment. If policymakers can find common ground on regulatory coherence, they can lower regulatory costs, generate growth and employment, and reduce bottlenecks to trade and investment. However, the U.S. and EU have very different regulatory approaches that reflect deeply held norms about the appropriate role of the state. As a result, these negotiations likely will be controversial and complicated.

Secondly, TTIP could serve as a “gold standard” and building block for other trade agreements by showing how nations can find common ground on sensitive internal regulatory issues. Finally, the talks will show whether and how trade negotiations can be updated to meet public demands for transparent and responsive governance in the Internet age.

We believe “how” the two trade giants negotiate and interact with their constituents about these negotiations could be as important as “what” they negotiate. Hence, in this project, we propose a four-step strategy to help inform and involve the public about on-going TTIP negotiations. Our goal is to help both governments utilize technology to connect with their constituents and build support for common approaches to trade and governance.

**Public Involvement, Trust and Transparency in Trade Policymaking: Why is it Important?**

Public engagement in the trade policy process in both the EU and the U.S. is sporadic and limited. The public can formally comment before negotiations begin but once initiated, the public cannot directly influence the course of negotiations. In short, only a small circle of elites makes trade policy.

Moreover, although the press informs the public of the outlines and objectives of the negotiations, the actual negotiating documents remain secret. Diplomats have long argued that secrecy builds trust between governments, as they must count on their counterparts to keep information confidential. Trade negotiators expect secrecy to discuss sector-specific tariffs or business confidential information. However, secrecy among negotiators may also engender public distrust. The public in the U.S. and the EU have scuttled several international agreements that were negotiated in secret and not built on a base of public support-- the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement ([http://keepthewebopen.com/acta](http://keepthewebopen.com/acta)) and the Multilateral Agreement on Investment ([http://tinyurl.com/d8r66cf](http://tinyurl.com/d8r66cf)).

U.S. and European policymakers have promised greater openness in trade policy. In its “Open Government Plan,” the U.S. Trade Representative’s office agreed that it needed to become more

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On May 9, 2013, President Obama’s “Open Data Policy” declared that government data should be public, accessible, fully described, reusable, complete, timely, and managed post-release. On May 21, 2013, members of Congress of both parties, in both chambers, introduced the DATA Act, which will transform the U.S. government’s spending information from inaccessible documents into open data. On June 18, 2013, the United States signed the G8’s “Open Data Charter,” committing to open data as a default.
responsive to the public at large but officials have not figured out how to do so (See http://tinyurl.com/n7ztdug). EU officials also recognize the need to make the trade process more open. In the EU’s “Initial Position Paper,” which was leaked in late June 2013, the EU noted the importance of transparency, consultation, and an improved feedback mechanism among policymakers. Senior officials in both the EU and the U.S. have noted that the failure to be transparent can undermine the credibility of the negotiations and necessitates a search for new ways to involve stakeholders. (See http://tinyurl.com/loghr4.) We believe that public involvement and transparency in TTIP is especially important because, as noted above, the negotiations address potentially controversial regulatory issues. TTIP negotiators may benefit from increased trust in the negotiations as well as greater credibility and creative thinking from public involvement.

**Project Strategy**

George Washington University’s Institute for International Economic Policy (IIEP), housed within the Elliott School of International Affairs in Washington DC and the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) based in Berlin, propose to implement a four-step strategy designed to help both the U.S. and the EU facilitate a more consistent and informed dialogue about trade policy and in so doing, promote greater public understanding, participation and facilitate accountability appropriate to 21st century governance.

The four-part project will include:

1. **Study and prepare a report on how government officials in the U.S., EU, Canada, Australia, South Africa, Brazil, and Mexico inform and involve their publics about trade (“the best practices report”). We will then summarize the results in a policy brief with recommendations to U.S. and EU policymakers as to how to improve trade policy openness and accountability.**

2. **Create and curate an Internet “one-stop shop” (TTIP Transparency Project website) which will include a wide variety of publicly available materials on the TTIP negotiations. We will design the one-stop shop to help the public understand the negotiations as they unfold. These resources will also be useful to journalists writing on the TTIP process. We will publicize using social media (e.g. Twitter, Facebook, and Tumblr).**

3. **Organize six conferences on key issues in TTIP for which transparency and accountability are particularly important (e.g. food safety rules, labor standards, intellectual property rights, and data privacy). These meetings will be recorded and accessible online through streaming media. Project staff also will produce reports summarizing each conference that will be available online. The Washington International Trade Association, a non-profit organization dedicated to discussion of international trade policy and with extensive connections to the U.S. trade policy community, will co-sponsor these events.**

4. **Build a platform (TTIP Negotiation Wiki) for online discussion of key issues in the negotiations. Participants would be able to use the wiki to comment and suggest modifications to specific language in previous trade agreements. The moderated and curated wiki is , designed to show how policymakers simultaneously can build trust with the public by involving EU and U.S. citizens in key negotiating issues without jeopardizing trust among negotiators.**

**Rationale for the Project**

We believe that objective, easy to understand information on TTIP and a crowd-sourced platform can help the U.S. and EU build greater understanding and trust in the trade negotiating process.

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2 The EU Parliament issued a similar directive in 2001 that gives the public the right to access EU institution documents while preserving EU institutions’ effective decision-making. (http://tinyurl.com/lhomnys) and Official Journal, Regulation No 1049/2001. Susan Ariel Aaronson interview with EU trade officials.

Scholars have long argued that participation in trade agreements builds trust (Bardhan: 2006 and, Trade agreements facilitate trust by matching producers and distributors, sanctioning bad behavior, and allowing trade partners to share information about new opportunities (Conley and Udry: 2010).

The EU could both build trust and reap significant benefits if U.S. and EU citizens believe their voices have been heard in the TTIP process. First, average citizens are more likely to be enthusiastic about TTIP and resist overblown claims about the agreement (e.g. it will lead to lower environmental standards, less food safety, or more unemployment). If policymakers consistently engage the public and show constituents that they take their views seriously, they can build trust and understanding. Secondly, policymakers may find it easier to engage the press and the public in these topics in a constructive manner. Research shows that many people who would benefit from trade liberalization are not aware of their positive effects, while the interest groups opposed to such reforms are well informed (Downs: 1957; Swinnen and Francken: 2006, p. 639). Moreover, public support for TTIP can strengthen the broader U.S.-EU international partnership and reduce doubts about the strength of the trans-Atlantic relationship. Some analysts argue that TTIP’s successful conclusion could reinforce the U.S. commitment to Europe in general and especially to the European Union’s role as a critical partner in the international community (Congressional Research Service: 2013, p. 8.) Finally, trade diplomats may benefit from unanticipated creative thinking (both about process and negotiating outcomes). Thus, we believe policymakers would benefit from a platform that can facilitate dialogue based on objective information.

**Government use of e-platforms and crowdsourcing to solve policy problems and build trust**

Government officials in several countries recently have experimented with creating new Internet platforms to obtain public feedback and build trust:

- The EU launched a European “eGovernment” Action Plan to empower citizens and businesses, further the construction of a digital single market, enable efficiency and effectiveness, and enhance eGovernment Services in Europe. (See http://tinyurl.com/q9nxhtxp/.) The European Commission created a web site with cases, social networking, FAQs, to facilitate dialogue and implementation of eGovernment tools. (See http://www.epractice.eu/en/home/.)

- To address complicated issues and illuminate the potential of online dialogue, the European Commission funded a web site (“Puzzled by Policy”) to encourage citizens to learn about and comment on immigration policy. (See http://www.puzzledbypolicy.eu/.)

- To crowd-source ideas, the U.S. uses “challenge.gov” to announce prizes and challenges to find solutions to big problems. NASA has invite the public to improve the functions of a humanoid robot currently working on the International Space Station. (See http://challenge.gov/about)

- EU Parliamentarian Marietje Schaake turned to Facebook, Twitter and other online media sites to solicit comments on Europe’s first ever Digital Freedom Strategy. The EU Parliament adopted her report and strategy on November 12, 2012. (See http://tinyurl.com/cbqbjb3.)

- U.S. Congressman Darryl Issa used the web to encourage online comments on potential Internet related legislation (“The Open Act.”). (See http://keepthewebopen.com.)

In short, policymakers are learning how to engage citizens in policymaking. Web platforms allow greater dialogue, promote understanding of problems and can help build trust. We believe they may be particularly useful in the trade arena, which has often been subject to leaks and disinformation because the details of the negotiations are secret until the agreement is concluded.

**How the wiki can help trade policymakers:**

A wiki is a web site where participants can add, modify, or delete content in collaboration with others. We will design the TTIP Negotiation Wiki to enable individuals to comment and suggest language for key chapters in TTIP. We also will prepare background papers on six trade topics that will help inform the public about TTIP. We will also explain different regulatory preferences, such as domestic regulations.
regarding genetically modified organisms, as this is an important trust-building measure. With such information, EU and U.S. stakeholders will be better positioned to make informed comments.

Because information on the actual negotiating text will not be available until later in the process, we will ask for public comments based on language approved by both the U.S. and EU in recent trade agreements (e.g. U.S.-South Korea FTA and the EU-South Korea FTA). We will use this language to identify differences across agreements as well as to anticipate choke points within the TTIP discussions. Where we anticipate difficulties, we will propose a possible common ground text. The public will be welcome to make changes to the text. As with other wikis, individuals will comment on each other’s suggestions. To build interest in the wiki, we will forge partnerships with institutions working on TTIP on both sides of the Atlantic and compile an e-mail list that will notify stakeholders on new analyses as well as key items for discussion. Finally, to ensure balanced presentation and wide outreach, we will also establish an advisory board of trade and regulatory policy experts from both the EU and the U.S. The wiki will demonstrate to policymakers that the public can make a useful contribution to the negotiation language and outcomes.

Why is this project worthy of funding?
Our project will help build greater understanding among U.S. and EU citizens about the negotiation’s specifics and the benefits of closer economic and governance ties. Such informed citizens are more likely to trust what officials are doing. Our strategy also will show officials that they can increase public involvement in the negotiation without undercutting progress towards a final agreement. Trade diplomats may also benefit from “crowd-sourced” creative thinking about process and negotiating outcomes.

Qualifications for Project
The research team include Professors Susan Aaronson and Michael Moore (George Washington University), Stormy-Anika Mildner and Bettina Rudloff (SWP in Berlin). All bring expertise on trade and U.S. and EU policies, as well as extensive experience in grant management and conference organization.

Aaronson writes on trade, corruption, human rights, and Internet issues. She has written comparative studies of U.S. and EU policies on trade, corporate social responsibility, and investment. Aaronson’s research on trade and internet governance was funded by the Ford and MacArthur Foundations. She has testified before the European Parliament on trade and human rights, advised members on Internet freedom and trade issues, and worked with U.S. and EU policymakers on educating the public on trade.

Moore has extensive experience in trade policy, both as a researcher, instructor, and government official. Professor Moore has consulted for the U.S. government and the European Commission, and served as Senior Economist (for international trade) at the White House Council of Economic Advisers. He is currently a consultant to the European Commission on government procurement for the TTIP negotiations. Professor Moore has provided training on U.S. trade to analysts at the Department of State, the Department of Commerce, and the CIA. Moore has served as (founding) director of the Institute for International Economic Policy and as Associate Dean for the Elliott School.

Professors Aaronson and Moore are both housed at the GWU’s Institute for International Economic Policy (IIEP). The Institute develops effective policy options and academic analysis in a time of growing controversies about international economic integration in many countries around the world. Major international foundations, corporations, and international organizations have funded IIEP researchers including the Hewlett, MacArthur, and Ford Foundations, the Swiss National Science Foundation, the World Bank, the ILO, and the Asian Development Bank. IIEP has hosted dozens of major international conferences on international economic issues.

Stormy Annika Mildner is a Researcher and Director of the Executive Board at SWP. She is the author of many publications on trade, resources, risks, and financial policies as well as comparative economic
policies. She has a Ph.D. in Economics from the Free University Berlin and a Master of Science in International Political Economy from the London School of Economics. She has a long history of collaborating with U.S. partners on transatlantic issues, including the Council on Foreign Relations and the German Marshall Fund. She advises European and German governmental institutions on transatlantic trade and resource issues.

Bettina Rudloff is a Senior Associate at German Institute for International and Security and conducts research on food safety, agriculture, and GMOs. She has a PhD in agricultural economics. Before joining SWP, she was Assistant Professor at Bonn University. She advises European and German governmental institutions as well as the FAO on nanotechnology, food safety and GMOs. Her latest research focuses on comparative agricultural and fisheries policies.

Mildner will lead the team from SWP, which is one of Germany’s oldest and most prominent independent think tanks. It advises the Bundestag and the German Federal Government, as well as the general public. The SWP has offices in Berlin and Brussels. SWP has extensive expertise in organizing major international conferences and seminars on public policy issues.

1. Detailed Timetable
Suggested Project Period Jan 2014-Sept 2015 (20 months)


b) TTIP “one-stop shop” (TTIP Transparency Project website) on Internet launched March 2014; continually updated for remainder of grant period.

c) Conference series on TTIP negotiating topics: January 2014-August 2015. The first three conferences will take place in the first year of the project and the second three in the project’s final eight months. The exact schedule depends on the progress of the negotiations.

d) The wiki platform (TTIP Negotiations wiki) launched June 2014; continually updated for remainder of grant period. The research team will prepare a scholarly paper about the impact of the wiki during the first half of 2015.

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<th>Activities</th>
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<td>Planning</td>
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<td>Research on trade openness “best practices”</td>
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<td>TTIP “one-stop shop” launched (TTIP Transparency Project website)</td>
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<td>Wiki platform for public feedback launch</td>
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<td>Presentation to press and public where research findings will be presented</td>
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<td>First scholarly paper on best-practices completed</td>
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<td>Second scholarly paper about the impact of the wiki</td>
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<td>On-going conference series on TTIP negotiating topics; conference reports published.</td>
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2. Detailed Description of Proposed Activities

2.A.1. Activities: Structured Events (Conferences, Seminars, Workshops etc.)
Provide a summary of all structured events, such as conferences, seminars workshops, briefing sessions,
webinars and forums. For all activities, please indicate which year of the entire grant period they will take place, clearly identifying whether they will take place in year one (January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014) or year two (January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015). For each, indicate themes to be addressed, the number and nature of expected attendees, any resulting information products, and means of dissemination. Please also specify how these activities will promote the goals set out in the Call for Proposals, and provide measurable criteria for evaluating their implementation. Specify what the visibility program for each activity will be (e.g. use of digital media or print advertisement).

IIEP will organize six conferences on highly sensitive issues in the TTIP negotiations. The speakers will include experts and if possible, trade negotiators from both the U.S. and EU. A tentative schedule for the conferences is below (but may change pending progress of TTIP negotiations):

**Year 1 conferences:** 1) food safety; 2) digital trade; 3) sustainable development (including labor standards and environmental regulation);

**Year 2 conferences:** 1) government procurement; 2) investment and investor-state disputes; and 3) intellectual property rights

The digital trade conference will be part of an ongoing series organized by Aaronson in conjunction with the World Wide Web Foundation, the World Bank, eBay, Microsoft, and several digital trade associations. The investment conference would also be organized in conjunction with other organizations such as the Cato Institute and Progressive Policy Institute. We will also seek out other groups to co-sponsor and ensure visibility as well as high turnout. The Washington International Trade Association (WITA) has agreed to co-sponsor the conferences. WITA, which currently has over 1800 members, regularly organizes major trade policy events in Washington. WITA co-sponsorship, combined with an extensive IIEP email list, will ensure broad attendance at the conferences.

We will market the conferences through IIEP’s web sites, IIEP listservs (which includes over 3000 individuals in business, government, academia, and civil society) and IIEP’s press list (which includes over 100 journalists). We will also cross-market it with other organizations we typically partner with including the Computer and Communications Industry Association, think tanks such as Brookings, Council on Foreign Relations, and the Progressive Policy Institute, NGOs such as Oxfam, and international organizations such as the Food Policy Research Institute and the World Bank. We would expect approximately 100 attendees for each conference. We anticipate that the audience would be from academia, journalists, think tanks, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), government officials and other trade and policy specialists. A recording of each conference will be streamed online. We will post summaries of the presentations, audience comments, PowerPoints, and associated materials after each event. A project researcher will produce a short report on each conference.

We will measure the effectiveness of these efforts through attendance records, participant responses to distributed surveys, and related website traffic. Among the criteria: 1) Did attendees include the audience mix identified above (e.g. think tank specialists, journalists, NGOs, etc.)? 2) Did journalists report on the conference remarks? 3) Did survey respondents report that they gained new insights from the conference? 4) What were the counts of views of the conference materials on the Web? and 5) How many times associated materials were downloaded?

**2.A.2. Activities: Media Partnerships and Media Programs**

Summarize all media partnerships and media programs. For all activities, please indicate which year of the entire grant period they will take place, clearly identifying whether they will take place in year one (January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014) or year two (January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015). Be sure to include what types of media will be involved, planned means of dissemination, and provide measurable criteria for evaluating the partnership or program.
**Year 1 and 2.** All of project events will be heavily marketed to the press, put in the AP and UPI daybooks, and marketed on partner web sites. IIEP faculty will engage journalists through the National Press Club, Overseas Press Club, and other organizations. We will also use Twitter, Linked-In and Facebook to market our activities and reports to journalists and others.

**Year 1 and 2.** The TTIP Transparency Website (“one-stop shop”) will be extremely useful for journalists working on the U.S.-EU FTA. One group that will especially benefit will be journalists and bloggers who cover regulatory issues such as food safety or the environment but who often have little knowledge of international trade rules.

We will measure influence and outreach by identifying the number of links to the TTIP Transparency Website in press reports and blogs to assess how many journalists may be using the sources. We will also count the number of Twitter followers.

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*Summarize all policy research, briefing, and working papers and any other publications not described under ‘Conferences and Workshops’ to be implemented during the grant period, clearly identifying whether they will be produced in year one (January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014) or year two (January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015). Be sure to include targeted audience(s), likely number of recipients, and planned means of dissemination, and provide measurable criteria for evaluating their implementation. Specify what the visibility program for each activity will be (e.g. use of digital media or print advertisement).*

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### Year 1: Research and Policy Papers

We believe it important to establish best practices on trade openness as a first step in the project. Thus, IIEP researchers will summarize and compare how the U.S., EU, Canada, Australia, South Africa, Brazil, and Mexico make trade policy and involve the public. We will focus especially on when and how these governments use the Internet to communicate and receive feedback and well as how they structure the advisory committee process. We chose these countries because they are vibrant democracies and major players in the global economy. We will use our findings to guide the TTIP Transparency Project website and wiki.

We will publish our findings in a policy brief with recommendations to policymakers on how to improve trade policy openness and accountability. Aaronson will also draft a scholarly article based on the findings in early 2015. The research team will circulate the findings to other governments. IIEP researchers will also draft op-eds based on this material that could appear in widely viewed websites such as “The Financial Times,” “Policy Innovations,” and “Vox.eu.”

IIEP researchers will circulate the policy brief to an extensive network of personal contacts policymakers, academic and policy researchers, journalists, the NGO community, and university faculty members teaching trade policy. Professors Moore, Aaronson and Mildner will use these materials in their courses and will make them available to other professors teaching similar courses. All publications will be available for download at the IIEP website, the Social Science Research Network, RePec and other online sources for trade policy research.

We will measure effectiveness of these efforts through online and published citations to the policy brief. In addition, we will also count links of the material to blogs, testimony, Twitter feeds, press reports and other use of the brief. We will also identify the number of faculty members using the related courses materials in university trade courses.

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4 Including both electronic and print publications.
Years 1 and 2: Conference Reports

IIEP researchers will produce reports on each of the six conferences focused on TTIP issues for which transparency and openness will be particularly critical. As with the “best practices” project above, materials will be distributed electronically to journalists and researchers.

We will measure effectiveness of these efforts through on-line and published citations to the reports. We will also count links to blogs, testimony, Twitter feeds, and press reports.

Year 2: Final Report

IIEP and SWP researchers will prepare a final report as well as a scholarly paper on the impact of the wiki. It will be available online and we hope to present the results at scholarly conferences.


Describe and explain the timing and impact of any additional activities to be conducted during the grant period, clearly identifying whether they will take place in year one (January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014) or year two (January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015). Please also specify how these activities will promote the goals set out in the Call for Proposals, and provide measurable criteria for evaluating their implementation. Specify what the visibility program for each activity will be (e.g. use of digital media or print advertisement).

A) Create and curate an Internet “one-stop shop” (Year 1 and Year 2) where IIEP staff will assemble and curate critical information on TTIP negotiations including: publically available versions of draft agreements; government papers and reports; NGO analyses and position papers; press reports; academic and policy research papers, and relevant Twitter feeds. The public (including the general citizenry, journalists, researchers, and activists) will be able to quickly review materials through one website. A related Twitter feed will notify followers when new materials are posted. These resources will be useful to journalists, writing on the TTIP process. We will disseminate the information to academic groups such as International Political Economy Group of the International Studies Association, economists’ groups, universities that are members of the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs, and relevant websites on trade such as bilaterals.org.

We will provide materials from the one-stop shop to other key audiences. Two possible groups include:

1. The network of World Affairs Councils (WACs) in the U.S. WACs provide a forum for discussion of foreign policy issues in large and medium-sized cities throughout the U.S. (http://tinyurl.com/k7a3mmj). These materials will be the basis for public involvement and education about the progress and outcome of the TTIP negotiations.

2. Project staff will disseminate information to high school and college students with groups such as Globalization 101.org (http://www.globalization101.org/), which helps educate individuals interested in learning more about changes in the international economy.

In addition, IIEP researchers will disseminate the information and raise awareness of the efficacy of the site through publications, tweets, blogs, and policy talks.

We will measure success by counts of website hits, Twitter followers, mentions by the press and bloggers, adoption of the material by teachers, and use in WAC and globalization101.org events.

B) Build a platform (“wiki”) for online discussion of key issues in the negotiation (Years 1 and 2).

The TTIP Negotiation Wiki will facilitate greater public understanding and public comment on TTIP. The wiki will be located on a site designed for crowdsourcing such as the OpenGov-Madison Project (http://tinyurl.com/ppsrmct) and linked to the project website. The SWP and IIEP-moderated and -curated wiki would be designed in a manner similar to “puzzled by policy,” an EU-funded site (http://www.puzzledbypolicy.eu/) designed to stimulate discussion on immigration policy, with separate sections that allow site visitors to learn about the issues in TTIP, to comment on those issues, and share information with others. We will use the text of existing trade agreements (e.g. the U.S.-Korea and EU-
Korea FTAs, the most recent trade agreement completed by both) and domestic regulation to identify possible text within a final TIPP agreement. This will be the foundation on which we elicit on-line comments about the language in key chapters in the TTIP agreement.

To ensure broad participation, we will work extensively with social media, listservs, the press, editorialists, NGOs, business and academic groups to market the site. The site will be designed to reassure policymakers that they can obtain informed public comment from EU and U.S. citizens on important topics without jeopardizing trust among negotiators The researchers for the project also will reach out to academic experts, legislators, civil society, and business in the U.S. and EU to comment about specific areas of the ongoing negotiations using social media tools. We will get feedback on our wiki from an advisory board comprised of academics, former trade negotiators and government officials, and representatives of civil society, and business; the group’s membership will be based on Aaronson’s, Mildner’s and Moore’s extensive trade policy contacts in the U.S. and EU. The advisory board will provide us with feedback on our efforts and help us do outreach.

We will keep U.S. and EU officials apprised of the public comments to these FTA provisions. We will measure success by counting public comments on the wiki, blog links, twitter feeds and press reports on the site. We will interview EU and U.S. policymakers to help us assess whether the public comments were useful to trade policymakers.

C) Conference series. The six-part conference series will attract a wide variety of stakeholders in the Washington DC area. We anticipate approximately 100 attendees based on previous IIEP-organized events. We request EU support for food and drink for these events in addition to GWU support.

B. Staff Assigned to the Operation.

Explain the duties and indicate the effort required (hours worked per week) of all staff devoted to the project during the period of the grant, clearly identifying the amount of individual effort required during the grant period for both year one (January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014) or year two (January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015).

Aaronson will work on the best practices study, the wiki, conferences and outreach. (Year 1: 50% effort for first six months and 30% for second six months; Year 2: 30%).

Moore will work on the one-stop shop efforts, conferences, the wiki and outreach. (Year 1: 15%; Year 2: 25%)

Mildner and Rudloff will work on the conferences and the wiki. They will write the research and policy publications associated with the wiki and transparency websites (Years 1 and 2: 10%).

One half-time GWU-based research assistant (funded through the EU) will work on the one-stop shop and conferences under the direction of Professor Moore. A second full-time GWU-based research assistant funded by the EU will support the wiki in Washington DC. A third SWP-based Ph.D. research assistant will support Mildner and Rudloff’s work in Berlin (at 50% effort). These efforts will take place over Years 1 and 2.

An existing GWU grant will support a PhD research assistant (at 10% effort) and a staff assistant (at 25% effort) through June 2014. GWU also will provide one part-time staff assistants in the first year and two in the second period to Professor Aaronson and Moore for research and outreach as part of its contribution.

2.C. Staff Travel and Related Subsistence.
Explain the planned date(s) and purpose(s) of all staff travel during the period of the grant, clearly identifying whether the travel and related subsistence expense will take place in year one (January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014) or year two (January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015).

The conference series on sensitive TTIP topics will highlight both U.S. and EU approaches and reactions. Thus, we will include European experts to ensure a balanced and informed discussion. Members of the SWP research team will make one trip each to one of the conferences to add their insights. In addition, we are requesting funding for an additional six EU conference speakers over the entire grant period.

Cost/Rental of Equipment and Rental of facilities (e.g. conference facilities).
Explain the timing and purpose of any expenses in this category to be incurred during the period of the grant, clearly identifying whether the expense will be incurred in year one (January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014) or year two (January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015). Rental expenses must involve external payments to third parties with a separate Legal Entity, and not inter-institutional transfers.

IIEP will host the conferences at GWU facilities. No funding from EU requested.

2.E. Costs of Consumables and Supplies.
Explain the timing and purpose of any expenses in this category to be incurred during the grant period, clearly identifying whether the expense will be incurred in year one (January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014) or year two (January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015). Note this category relates to e.g. office stationery and telephones, not food or catering expenses which should be placed in Category A.

No EU funding requested for this category.