

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House by email at [gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov](mailto:gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov), within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Name of Traveler: John Lynch
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR**  None  
b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates: Departure: 4/1/24 Return: 4/5/24  
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR**  None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Brussels, Belgium Return City: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Transatlantic Policy Network
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Attended meetings, roundtables, discussions, and briefings with Members of European Parliament (EP), Commission, EU staff, and private sector policy professionals.
7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:
  - a.  a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
  - b.  the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
  - c.  page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; **and**
  - d.  the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a.  I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda. *Signify statement is true by checking the box.*  
b. If not, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**I certify that the information contained on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature of Traveler:  Date: 4/19/24

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Rep. Jim Costa  Date: 4/19/24

Signature of Supervising Member: \_\_\_\_\_

**U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Ethics**

**SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM**

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. ***A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated on the trip within 10 days of their return.*** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House rules and the Committee's travel regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): Transatlantic Policy Network (TPN)  
1015 15th Street NW, Suite 600, Washington DC 20005
2. Travel Destination(s): Brussels, Belgium
3. Date of Departure: April 1st, 2024 Date of Return: April 5th, 2024
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s) John Lynch  
(NOTE: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if all information is identical for each person listed.)
5. **Actual amount** of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in response to Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$2680.20 United	\$ 754.88 Sofitel	\$340.62	Uber - \$53.04 Uber - \$11.00
Accompanying Relative	None			

6. All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. (Signify statement is true by checking box):

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: S A R A H L E N T I

Name: SARAH LENTI Title: DIRECTOR

Organization: TRANSATLANTIC POLICY NETWORK (TPN)

**I am an officer of the above-named organization (signify statement is true by checking box):**

Address: 1015 15th Street NW, Suite 600,  
Washington DC 20005

Telephone number: + 1 202-557-5461

Email Address: sarah.lenti@tpnonline.org

*Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.*

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at (202) 225-7103.

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed trip sponsor form(s) and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection.

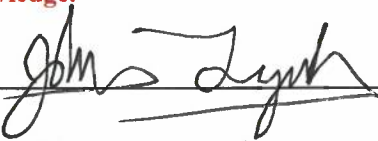
This form and any attachments may be submitted at 1015 Longworth House Office Building or [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).

**Your completed request must be submitted to the Committee no less than 30 days before your proposed departure date.** Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 30 days before the trip commences. **You must receive explicit approval from the Committee before you depart on this trip.**

Name of Traveler: John Lynch

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

**I certify that the information contained on both pages of this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature: 

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): \_\_\_\_\_

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): Rep. Jim Costa

Office Address: 2081 Rayburn

Telephone Number: 202-407-1051

Email Address of Contact Person: John.Lynch@mail.house.gov

Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet, the purpose of the trip is to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity, *and* these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 30 days before the trip departure date.

**NOTE: You must complete all of the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.**

**KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM.** Page 2 (but not this page) must be submitted to the Clerk as part of the post-travel disclosure required by House Rule 25. Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting paperwork for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or via email: [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: John Lynch
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: Transatlantic Policy Network
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Brussels, Belgium
4. a. Date of Departure: 4/1/2024 Date of Return: 4/5/2024  
b. Yes  No  Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?  
If yes, list dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_
5. a. Yes  No  Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**
  - (1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: \_\_\_\_\_
  - (2) Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
  - (3) Yes  No  Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age?
6. a. Yes  No  Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?  
b. **If yes**, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Yes  No  *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitation, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.  
NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. **Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.**  
This trip is relevant to the traveler's role as Legislative Director and principal advisor to the member on foreign affairs issues. The role also includes staffing the member on the House Foreign Affairs Europe Subcommittee.  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. **Yes  No  Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**
10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

### ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 3/28/24



# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.**

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:

Transatlantic Policy Network

2.  I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

3. **Check only one.** I represent that:

a.  The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip; **OR**

b.  The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds; **OR**

c.  The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds, services, or in-kind assistance from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.

If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. **For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited** (include additional pages if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_  
John Lynch, Legislative Director to Rep. Jim Costa (see Document A, Point 4, for explanation).

5. Yes  No  Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?

6. Date of Departure: 1 April 2024 Date of Return: 6 April 2024

7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC

b. Destination(s): Brussels, Belgium

c. City of return: Washington, DC

8. **Check only one.** I represent that

a.  The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; **OR**

b.  The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent; **OR**

c.  The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.

9. **Check only one of the following.**
- a.  I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
  - b.  I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
  - c.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
  - d.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted. \_\_\_\_\_

10.  Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*

11. **Check only one of the following.**
- a.  I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify the statement is true by clicking the box; OR*
  - b.  *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.

12. For **each** sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip **and** its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:  
 TPN's goal is to promote strengthened political, security, and economic cooperation between the United States and the European Union. Mr. Lynch's participation is meant to deepen his, and his EU counterparts', understanding of issues related to the prevalence of AI, trade, the rise

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air  Rail  Bus  Car  Other  (specify: \_\_\_\_\_)
  - b. Class of travel: Coach  Business  First  Charter  Other  (specify: \_\_\_\_\_)
  - c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

14.  I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:
- a.  The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
  - b.  The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation. If "b" is checked:
    - 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided): \$95 per day: breakfast included in hotel rate; lunch on own \$40; dinner roundtable events at
    - 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: While TPN typically holds our joint US- EU we believe there is value to hosting in Brussels, Belgium, the capitol of the European Union.

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Name: Sofitel Brussels Europe City: Brussels Cost Per Night: \$258 (w/ breakfast)  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Please see Document A, Point 16, for explanation.

Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_

17.  I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*

18. **Total Expenses for each Participant:**

Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total <b>Transportation</b> Expenses per Participant	Total <b>Lodging</b> Expenses per Participant	Total <b>Meal</b> Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee <input type="checkbox"/>	US \$1600 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	US \$775	US \$380
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	--	--


	<b>Other</b> Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	US \$150	Airport transfers and local transportation
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	--

19. **Check only one:**

- a.  I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
- b.  *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. **I certify by my signature that**

- a. **I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;**
- b. **I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and**
- c. **The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature:  Digitally signed by Sarah Lenti  
Date: 2024.02.24 19:54:31 -07'00' Date: 26 January 2024

Name: Sarah Lenti Title: Director

Organization: Transatlantic Policy Network (TPN)

Address: 1015 15th Street NW, Suite 600 Washington, DC 20005

Email: sarah.lenti@tpnonline.org Telephone: 202-557-5461

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Michael Guest, Mississippi  
*Chairman*  
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania  
*Ranking Member*

David P. Joyce, Ohio  
John H. Rutherford, Florida  
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York  
Michelle Fischbach, Minnesota

Veronica Escobar, Texas  
Mark DeSaulnier, California  
Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina  
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland



ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

**U.S. House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust  
*Staff Director and Chief Counsel*

Keelie Broom  
*Counsel to the Chairman*

David Arrojo  
*Counsel to the Ranking Member*

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328  
Telephone: (202) 225-7103  
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

March 29, 2024

Mr. John Lynch  
Office of the Honorable Jim Costa  
2081 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Lynch:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Belgium,<sup>1</sup> scheduled for April 1 to 5, 2024, sponsored by Transatlantic Policy Network.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$480 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$480] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

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<sup>1</sup> Please be aware that the Committee's review of the proposed trip does not extend to either the security situation in the destination country or security related to foreign travel in general. We recommend you contact the Office of House Security (OHS) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. OHS may be reached at (202) 226-2044 or ohsstaff@mail.house.gov. House travelers should also register for the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at <https://step.state.gov>.



If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,



Michael Guest  
Chairman



Susan Wild  
Ranking Member

MG/SW:tn

**DRAFT**

**TPN STAFFERS NETWORK PROGRAMME**

**BRUSSELS, 4 APRIL 2024**

- 08:30 hrs      **Transatlantic Week 2024**  
Closing Session – The good of the whole  
Theme:            Transatlantic Vision 2030 exercise: ideas for action 2025 - 2028  
Location:        Sofitel Brussels Europe Hotel, 1 Place Jourdan, 1040 Brussels
- 11.00 hrs      **Peter Chase**, Senior Fellow, German Marshall Fund of the United States  
Theme:            How Brussels works – the institutions, the business community and the organisations
- 11.45 hrs      **Alexandros Yannis**, Head of Division, Policy Planning and Strategic Oversight, European External Action Service (EEAS)  
Theme:            Overview EEAS  
                      Comparing EU and US approaches to China and Russia
- 12:30 hrs      Working lunch for TPN Staffers Network  
Theme:            Mapping of Operations and Program for 2024 and 2025  
                      Legislative Priorities
- 14.30 hrs      **Alex Karides**, Head of Unit, European Parliament  
**Jerome Legrand**, External Policies Counselor, European Parliament Liaison office with U.S. Congress (EPLO)  
Theme:            The European Parliament and transatlantic relations
- 16.00 hrs      **Dan Nechita**, Head of office Dragos Tudorache MEP  
**Slavina Ancheva**, Assistant to Eva Maydell MEP  
Theme:            Comparing and Contrasting EU and US Approaches to AI
- 19:30 hrs      **Roundtable with US company representatives**  
Speaker:         **Liam Benham**, President of EU, NATO and Government Affairs Europe and Chairman, AmCham EU  
Theme:            US companies working in the EU

## **TRANSATLANTIC WEEK 2024**

### **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, BRUSSELS**

**TUESDAY 2 APRIL – WEDNESDAY 3 APRIL 2024**

#### **“Challenges Ahead for EU US Relations: Developing a Roadmap towards 2030”**

2024 is shaping up to be an unusual year. Not only are there an unprecedented number of countries going to the polls, with more than 50 elections taking place across the globe mobilising more than a quarter of the world’s population. But, closer to home, elections to the European Parliament take place from 6 - 9 June with a new European Commission being chosen by the autumn. US Presidential elections take place on Tuesday 5 November. Such a constellation has not occurred in transatlantic relations since 2004.

This provides TPN with the opportunity to assess progress made with its Transatlantic Vision 2030 exercise started in 2019. We can see how unexpected events such as the COVID pandemic which began in March 2020; the brutal Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, followed by the unfolding Israel Hamas war in the Middle East started on 7 October 2023 have fundamentally altered the transatlantic relationship. .

Drawing on the results of these assessments, we will focus our discussions on the way ahead towards 2030 to see how best to handle the enormous challenges facing the transatlantic partnership and identify priorities for joint action. As part of these discussions, we will review how best to fireproof the EU US relationship to ensure that scarce resources are used to maximum effect during the period 2025 to 2028 when new US and EU administrations come into power.

So in this year of elections, TPN is organising its flagship event Transatlantic Week 2024 for the first time in Brussels, staging the event at the European Parliament Library, in a similar way that the US Library of Congress has been used for previous TA Weeks in Washington DC

This years’ TA Week will run from the afternoon of Tuesday 2 April to the evening of Wednesday 3 April. Starting with the opening session on the Tuesday afternoon, there will be sessions looking at the Outlook for Transatlantic Partnership and the geopolitical challenges. There will then be a welcoming cocktail for all participants that evening. On Wednesday morning, there will sessions on economic and trade; sustainability and digital transformation assessing the key priorities going forward. Wednesday afternoon will provide the opportunity to see where we are with the Compass Project and discuss ideas as to how to achieve an ambitious TA Partnership framework by 2030.

We would be delighted if you would join us in this search for ideas for joint action together.

**8 FEBRUARY 2024**

# DRAFT PROGRAMME

## TUESDAY 2 APRIL 2024

AM/PM                      Arrival of participants

### SESSION 1

15.00 – 15.15              Opening comments

### SESSION 2

15.15 – 16.00              **Outlook for Transatlantic Partnership**

Momentous events are underway across the globe: the world is indeed on fire. The Russian invasion of Ukraine still continues after more than 2 years open conflict while the Israeli/Hamas war has the potential to spread across the Middle East. These are dangerous times for the transatlantic partners, the need for their close cooperation more urgent than ever.

What are the greatest priorities that they have to resolve in the months ahead?

### SESSION 3

16.00 – 16.30              **Geopolitical Outlook (Part 1)**  
**Overview: Outlook to 2030 and beyond**

### SESSION 4:

16.30 – 17.15              **Geopolitical Outlook (Part 2)**  
**Russia:**

Russia has emerged as a hostile, militarily aggressive power in Europe with its invasion of Ukraine and has moved decisively into Beijing's orbit. The emerging perspective is that the world is moving towards a system of regional political and economic blocs, heavily armed and permanently in competition for technological leadership and access to key mineral and food resources.

Will the transatlantic partnership show sufficient political leadership to win the war in Ukraine?

## **SESSION 5**

### **17.15 – 18.00      Geopolitical Outlook (Part 3)**

#### **China:**

The economic rise of China to be the world's largest economic power has long been predicted. As the geopolitical order changes, the central question now becomes how to balance national security interests to secure critical technologies and materials while also continuing to advance a strong bilateral trade and investment relationship. Both the EU and the US are de-risking ties with Beijing reshoring production and considering limits on Chinese investment in their economies.

How can the US and the EU focus on issues of common interest to build an effective joint approach for China?

## **SESSION 6**

### **18-00 – 20.00      Welcome Cocktail**

## **WEDNESDAY 3 APRIL 2023**

## **SESSION 7**

### **8.00 – 9.00      Breakfast: In conversation**

## **SESSION 8**

### **9.15 – 10.15      Economic and Trade**

Trade policy is going through an existential re-set. Domestic politics on both sides of the Atlantic raise questions about globalization – and the ability of countries to agree to common approaches and principles. But companies still manufacture and distribute; buy and sell; and employ workers around the world.

The US and EU have common challenges, but also a common agenda to promote supply chain resiliency, balance economic security with market access and create the enabling environment for sustainable trade and investment that creates long-term economic growth.

How can those common interests lead to a common policy agenda? And how can European and American businesses contribute to developing and delivering on that future-forward trade agenda?



## **SESSION 9**

### **10.15 – 11.15      Sustainability**

Government and business have a common agenda – to meet the current challenges of the climate crisis and with products and services designed to transition energy to more sustainable fuels, to address food security challenges and to innovate a better and more circular approach to scarce resources. Circularity is one approach to ensure that the renewable energy fuels production process reduces emissions; while developing products that can be recycled and reused. Consumers are demanding action of companies and of governments to deliver policies and products that reduce cost and create options.

The EU US Trade and Technology Council has launched the Transatlantic Initiative for Sustainable Trade (TIST), which aims to set up a Transatlantic Green Marketplace. How can the US and the EU translate that idea into concrete actions that encourage investment in sustainable value chains that deliver economic progress with environmental solutions?

### **11.15 – 11.30      Coffee Break**

## **SESSION 10**

### **11.30 – 12.45      Digital Transformation**

The speed of digital transformation shows no sign of slackening. Changes which took place 30 years ago took a year to reach 1 million subscribers: today it is a matter of days. The EU and the US have made important progress to address common challenges with the Trade and Technology Council, for example dealing with questions relating to data transfer and semiconductors.

Looking down the road towards 2040, AI promises to be a huge global disruptor. Today, the EU favours a regulatory approach, most recently agreeing the world's first comprehensive Regulation on AI, while the US is focussing its efforts to deliver broader ambitions making space for innovation. How can common ground be found between these two approaches towards 2030 e.g. for AI? Can a transatlantic digital market be created over time?

## **SESSION 11**

### **13.00 – 14.15      Buffet Lunch      Priorities for EU digital policy**

## **SESSION 12**

### **14.15 – 15.00      Developing the TPN Staffer Network**

## **SESSION 13**

### **15.00 – 16.15      Key challenges ahead for EU US relations 2025 - 2028**

This session will allow participants to feed in their thoughts on the key challenges ahead during the period 2025 - 2028 when new US and EU administrations will have come into power on both sides of the Atlantic. Short summaries generated by AI will be available from the previous sessions to underpin the discussions. Can issues for the transatlantic partners, both of a bilateral as well as a multilateral nature be prioritised? How can the EU and the US best handle the situation in the Middle East or the problems of the Global South?

## **SESSION 14**

### **16.15 – 17.30      Transatlantic Vision 2030 – Compass Project: Next steps**

There is a strongly held belief that urgent action needs to be taken to strengthen the EU US relationship given the broad and deepening challenges ahead. Fireproofing the EU US relationship lies at the heart of this Project. Given the wide-ranging tasks undertaken by the EU and US partners, deepening following the Russian invasion of Ukraine, there urgently needs to be a focus on what the EU US framework is intended to achieve.

Currently, there are two Transatlantic Agendas underpinning the relationship – the New Transatlantic Agenda (1995) and the Joint Transatlantic Agenda (2021) with no links between them. Bringing the two Agendas together within a Partnership framework would provide a vital step for greater coherence. TPN recommends that the main features of this action plan be part of updating the Transatlantic Declaration 1990, enabling greater involvement of Congress, the European Parliament and the business community.

As this process takes place, it will be necessary to clarify the linkages between the deepening EU US relationship and NATO. What specific actions are now needed to make this proposal a reality? Can this be addressed at the NATO Summit planned for July 2024 in Washington DC?

## **SESSION 15**

### **17.30 – 18.00      Conclusions**

## **SESSION 16**

### **19.00 – 22.00      Cocktail/Dinner (Belgian Presidency)**



## TRANSATLANTIC POLICY NETWORK

4. Provide names and titles of all House Members and employees you are inviting. For each House invitee, provide and explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary).

House of Representatives Invitees:

Gianluca Nigro, LD to Representative Brendan Boyle

John Lynch, LD to Representative Jim Costa

Mark Erste, Foreign Policy Advisor to Representative Darrell Issa

Subject to the approval of the House Ethics Committee, TPN would like to organize a fact-finding visit to the European Union (EU) institutions in Brussels, Belgium for **John Lynch**. John Lynch is the Legislative Director to Representative Costa, who serves as the Vice-Chair, and most senior Democratic member, of the Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue (TLD), the official inter-parliamentary dialogue between the US Congress and the European Parliament. Congressman Costa participates in TLD meetings on a regular basis and has a keen interest in US-EU relations.

John Lynch serves as a member of the TPN Staffers Network.

The visit of John Lynch to the EU institutions in Brussels, Belgium would serve to promote a better understanding of US and EU interests, priorities, and concerns in relation to subjects like AI, the war in Ukraine and trade negotiations. In addition, it would further offer and opportunity to exchange views with staff to the Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) and European Commission officials about the aspects of various policy differences that are most likely to prove challenging for either side to build trust and political support that can help move policy negotiations forward at difficult junctures.

Congressman Costa, to whom John Lynch reports as his Legislative Director, has long been a proponent of closer US-EU economic and regulatory cooperation, and has helped to mobilize support in the US administration and among his colleagues in the House of Representatives at critical junctures. He has a deep understanding of the complex political, economic, and security issues facing both sides of the Atlantic, and is a well-known and well-respected advocate of closer cooperation among EU officials and legislators.

In summary, Congressman Costa and his office are firmly committed to transatlantic cooperation and closer US-EU relations in Congress and with their European Parliamentary colleagues. The visit will therefore help maintain and strengthen ties with many of the key parliamentary offices involved in transatlantic relations on the ground in Brussels.

In this vein, John Lynch's participation would aptly promote a better understanding of the key US policy positions to EU policy makers and stakeholders.

12. For each sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip and its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip.

TPN has a direct and immediate interest in the subject matter of the visit. TPN was founded in 1992 with the aim of strengthening political, economic, and security ties between the United States and the European Union. TPN is a non-governmental network that provides politicians, business, civil society stakeholders, academics, and other interested participants from both sides of the Atlantic with opportunities to address both current transatlantic issues and future challenges. We serve as a nonpartisan educational network whose overall mission is to educate individuals, academic institutions, businesses, political figures and the public at large about the benefits of a partnership between the United States and the European Union.

TPN's overarching objective is to promote a strengthened partnership between the governments and the people of the United States and European Union.

TPN works to achieve this objective by providing continual opportunities for US and EU politicians to participate in face-to-face discussions to broaden their understanding of the political agendas and priorities on both sides of the Atlantic and to develop a forward-looking agenda for transatlantic cooperation. In practical terms, the network seeks to accomplish its goals through a combination of informal visitor programmes and an extensive series of outreach roundtables organized in Brussels and Washington DC.

All activities serve to under-pin the formal exchanges between political leaders on both sides of the Atlantic. The informal nature of programs helps build ties, promote understanding, and ensure frank and open dialogue between legislators without the constraints of the official fora. Visitor programs organized by TPN for US legislators and their staff, policymakers and other experts serve an educational purpose and are intended to promote informal dialogue and discussion among these actors and their EU counterparts on key issues on the transatlantic agenda. Such exchanges help to bring fresh and up-to-date US perspectives to enhance transatlantic discussions in Brussels and promote a better understanding of US policy positions. They furthermore enable American and European policymakers to identify potential disagreements, seek out consensus, and explore opportunities for greater UE-EU cooperation in specific policy areas.

In addition to the benefits of policy debate which visits provide, they allow visitors to gain a greater understanding of the EU's governing structures, key institutions, important actors, and the political dynamics in the decision-making process. As importantly, direct interaction between US and EU policymakers also serves to create new, and reinforce existing, professional and personal ties between key actors. These relationships can help both sides anticipate and resolve transatlantic disagreements and serve to underpin the overall UE-EU relationship.

TPN will be the sole organizer of all aspects of John Lynch's visit to Brussels. It will make all travel and accommodation bookings, arrange all meetings for the program, independently provide background briefings on the meetings and the latest policy discussions in Europe, and oversee logistics on the ground during the visit.

15.b.2. Provide reason for selecting the location of the event or trip.

Brussels, Belgium has been chosen as the location for the visit because of the EU institutions. The European Parliament, the European Commission, and the Council of the EU) and located in the Belgian capital.

Engaging with representatives from all three of these EU institutions and other stakeholders from the broader EU business and NGO community will be essential in understanding the EU dynamics for the purposes of current or future policy negotiations around AI, economic cooperation, sustainability, and overall security.

16. Name, nightly cost, and reason for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility.

Hotel name: Sofitel Brussels Europe  
 City: Brussels, Belgium  
 Cost per night: US \$258, including breakfast.  
 Reasons for selecting: Sofitel Brussels is located near all the main European Union institutions (European Parliament, European Commission, Council of the EU). This makes it possible to walk to most meetings in Brussels (approximately 5–7-minute walking distance to each of the above). Other suitable hotels in Brussels would require a taxi for transportation.

18. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT

<b>GOOD FAITH ESTIMATES</b>	Total Transportation per Participant	Total Lodging per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	US \$1600.00	\$775.00	US \$380.00
For each accompanying relative	N/A	N/A	N/A

<b>GOOD FAITH ESTIMATES</b>	OTHER EXPENSES	IDENTIFY SPECIFIC NATURE OF "OTHER" EXPENSES
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	US \$200.00	Ground transportation: Ubers, cabs
For each accompanying relative	N/A	N/A

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