



*Il Ministro  
dello Sviluppo Economico*

*Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico*  
Uffici diretta collaborazione del Ministro  
Struttura: UDCM\_SM  
**REGISTRO UFFICIALE**  
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*Dear Lillianne,*

I would like to go back to the issue of transparency in trade negotiations that we have approached in several occasions in the FAC Trade Council.

I'm aware that huge efforts have been made in this field and that EU approach to transparency in trade negotiations is very effective.

Nevertheless, member states and EU Institutions keep facing a strong request for more transparency from national public opinions, NGOs, stakeholders. For this reason, while the Commission has to further strengthen its outreach activity on trade negotiations, I'm convinced that also the Council should send a clear message to European public opinion. Without such a message, it is highly likely that negative attitude will grove, putting the trade policy at risk.

I know that during your Presidency this issue has been introduced in the Trade Policy Committee discussion. Anyhow, I'm convinced that a swift decision on declassification and publication of trade mandates is needed and that, beyond the technical aspects, which are of course relevant, we have to take into account the very sensitive political situation in Europe. So far, I'm ready to support any possible initiative, during your Presidency or the forthcoming one, toward the declassification and publication of trade mandates.

Best regards

Carlo Calenda

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c.c.

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