



For Immediate Release

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PRESS RELEASE

14th Annual Digital Economy Workshop Held in Washington

Washington, DC – On Tuesday, June 28, 2016 the Trans-Atlantic Business Council (TABC) held the [14th Annual Digital Economy Workshop](#) (DEW), which is the stakeholder workshop held each year in conjunction with the U.S.-EU Information Society Dialogue (ISD). Senior U.S. and EU government officials joined representatives from TABC member companies and other tech industry leaders to discuss the key topics on the ISD agenda including ICT standards, connectivity, data flows, ICT-enabled innovation, and transatlantic collaboration across multilateral forums.

Co-chairs of the ISD – Ambassador Daniel A. Sepulveda, U.S. Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy and Deputy Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of State, and Roberto Viola, Director-General for the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology at the European Commission – opened the workshop by highlighting the importance for the U.S. and EU to serve as leaders encouraging openness and innovation in the global digital economy. Ambassador Sepulveda emphasized the need for stakeholder engagement and thanked TABC for being “a long-time partner in this dialogue.”

The workshop’s session discussions addressed the Internet of Things (IoT) and emerging technologies, cross-border issues in the global digital economy, and building the next generation of networks. Participants agreed that U.S. and EU companies are on the cusp of exciting technological advances but with this comes old and new policy challenges that must be addressed.

TABC Director-General/CEO Tim Bennett remarked, “We were pleased to hear from both U.S. and EU representatives that the benefits of the ISD continue to be of great value and that, in fact, some of the digital issues facing the two sides will lead to increased collaboration. Continuing a frank and an open dialogue focused on finding common areas is key to strengthening the transatlantic digital economy.”

Workshop speakers included:

- Ambassador Daniel A. Sepulveda, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State and U.S. Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy, Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs (EB), U.S. State Department
- Roberto Viola, Director General of DG CONNECT, European Commission
- Alan Davidson, Director of Digital Economy and Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Commerce, U.S. Department of Commerce
- Peter Lord, Senior Director of Global Standards Strategy and Policy, Oracle
- Paula Bruening, Senior Counsel for Global Privacy Policy, Intel

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- Dean Brenner, Senior Vice President for Government Affairs, Qualcomm
- Richard Nohe, General Counsel Americas Region, BT Global Services
- Charla Rath, Vice President, Wireless Policy Development, Verizon
- Mindel De La Torre, Chief, International Bureau, Federal Communications Commission
- Per Axel Blixt, Head of Unit, Experimental Platforms, DG CONNECT, European Commission
- Steve Sharkey, Vice President for Technology and Engineering Policy, T-Mobile
- Ted Dean, Deputy Assistant Secretary, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce
- Andrea Glorioso, Counselor for the Digital Economy, Delegation of the European Union to the United States
- Emily Sharpe, Privacy and Public Policy Manager, Facebook
- Stan McCoy, President & Managing Director, Motion Picture Association EMEA
- Bret Cohen, Senior Associate, Hogan Lovells

TABC thanks BT, Intel, Qualcomm, Oracle, and Verizon for sponsoring the workshop.

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The Trans-Atlantic Business Council (TABC) is a cross-sectoral business association representing global companies headquartered in the U.S. and EU. TABC works with companies across multiple sectors and policy levels, including the strategic level with the Trans-Atlantic Business Dialogue (TABD), a program which brings together C-suite executives and high level government officials. TABC stands out as the only transatlantic business organization uniquely placed to provide one voice for EU and U.S. companies on international trade and investment issues.

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