



Brussels, 16 October 2012

OPEN LETTER TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, EU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Actions to put Europe back on a growth trajectory are critical and the adoption of the proposed directive on Intra-Corporate Transferees (ICT) is a key element in achieving this.

The undersigned business organisations therefore call upon the European Parliament and the EU Council of Ministers to adopt on an expeditious basis the proposed ICT directive which would facilitate Europe's access to those skills and competences needed to enhance European competitiveness.

In a global economy, European enterprises and their customers need access to the best talent from around the world. Today, a patchwork of diverging and often overly complex national laws and regulations hinder the ability of businesses to bring their skilled employees from other countries to Europe on a temporary and short-term basis depriving our enterprises and customers of the competences available elsewhere.

Better and more timely access to skilled ICTs would enhance the competitiveness of business in Europe, spur innovation and knowledge transfer, and act as a driver for economic growth. By establishing an EU-wide regime for ICTs and promoting the pan-European mobility of ICTs, the proposed directive would help build a more dynamic Europe spurring growth without costs to the public purse.

Business awaits the adoption of this directive proposed by the European Commission in 2010, and now stalled in the European Parliament and EU Council of Ministers which have yet to agree on beginning the trialogue negotiations needed to conclude a final text. This procedural delay is not only reducing the competitiveness of European business but is also leading to a risk of fragmentation in national approaches towards ICTs. Trialogue negotiations should begin now.

At a time when actions to spur European growth are critical, we cannot afford continued delay in adoption of this measure which brings needed talent and dynamism to the European economy just when we need it most.

Yours Sincerely,



Hendrik Bourgeois
Chair
American Chamber of Commerce
to the EU



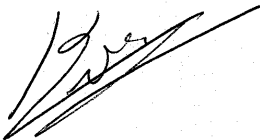
Philippe de Buck
Director General
BUSINESSEUROPE



James Waterworth
Vice-President
Computer & Communications Industry
Association Europe



Kristen Verderame
Interim President & CEO
European-American Business Council



Pascal Kerneis
Managing Director
European Services Forum



Dean C. Garfield
President and CEO
Information Technology Industry Council



Som Mittal
President
NASSCOM



James Lovegrove
Managing Director
TechAmerica Europe