

# The texts in the Transatlantic Trade Agreement become secret

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The withdrawal of the European Commission's proposal allowing each member state to ban or approve GMO products on its territory coincided with the complete classification of the documents concerning the negotiations for the Transatlantic Agreement between the USA and the European Union. A rule is being introduced that politicians will be able to read the texts in a secret "reading room" in Brussels. Due to a series of information leaks, and from member states that had had electronic access to the texts, the European Commissioner for Trade, Cecilia Malmström, stated that no further reports and communications would be sent to the EU member states because there are "important and sensitive points in the final stages of the negotiations." Although this measure is intended to be temporary, a large part, even among parliamentarians, including Klaus Ernst, a member of the economic committee in the Bundestag, considers the decision quite extreme. Thus, the European Commission removes the role of the member states as negotiators and

condemns smaller countries like Cyprus, Austria, and Bulgaria to fail to see the secret documents of the agreement, as they lack sufficient resources to review the documents in the Brussels reading room. By the end of the year, a secure system for transferring the important documentation is to be developed.