

**Principalele declarații ale adjunctului șefului misiunii SUA la București  
Dean Thompson la dezbaterea “Acordul de Parteneriat Transatlantic  
pentru Comerț și Investiții și impactul asupra României”**

15 iunie 2016

Good morning ladies and gentlemen and distinguished guests. Mr. Vice Prime Minister, State Secretary Badescu, Counslor Stefan, thank you for joining us today and sharing your insights. It is my honor to be here with you today. I'd like to thank Ana Birchall for hosting us in this beautiful place. I am glad to see a broad range of the Romanian public represented here today: academia, civil society, business groups, politicians, among others. Americans and Europeans both believe that open trade and investment markets create networks of prosperity between countries. Openness, transparency, and the rule of law are the cornerstones of our democracy, political stability, and long-term economic health.

These values and beliefs have served us well; the U.S, and the EU are the world's largest economies and our citizens enjoy high living standards and mostly peaceful lives. The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership provides an opportunity to promote these shared values globally. The fact is that the world is changing rapidly; we now have emerging markets and rising powers that want their share of economic prosperity and high living standards, just as we have had across the Atlantic for the past several decades. This is understandable and encouraged. However, it is important that the U.S. and the EU can set the rules of world trade, building on our commitment to strong labor rights, enforceable environmental protections, food that is safe for our children, and intellectual property rights that encourage entrepreneurship and innovation.

Although the EU and the U.S. boast the largest trade relationship in the world, there are still many unnecessary barriers to trade and investment – tariffs, red tape, delays, and uncertainty over regulation. These barriers stand between businesses, especially small and medium-sized enterprises, and potential customers. T-TIP is a common-sense way to tear down these barriers to more easily connect European entrepreneurs to U.S. consumers, and vice versa.

The United States and the EU are committed to building an even stronger economic relationship that sets the bar for international trade. That is why we are here today, discussing the impact of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership agreement (T-TIP for short), which could be one of the main drivers of economic growth and competitiveness for the EU, and for Romania.

Thank you.