



# The Trans Pacific Partnership: First hearing

**11.10AM MONDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2016**

The [Joint Standing Committee on Treaties](#) (JSCOT) will commence its process of examining the [Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement](#) (TPP) on behalf of the Parliament at a public hearing on Monday in Canberra.

Acting Chair of JSCOT, the Hon Kelvin Thomson MP, said the TPP has been promoted as the world's most significant trade and investment agreement, with the signatories making up 40 per cent of the world's GDP, and needed to be considered carefully.

"The TPP is comprehensive and complex, involving 12 countries and covering a wide range of areas from labour mobility to pharmaceutical patents," Mr Thomson said.

"The Committee will be taking a thorough look at the TPP to make sure it is in the best interests of Australians and will provide its recommendations as to whether or not we should take binding treaty action."

Mr Thomson said JSCOT will be conducting a comprehensive consultation process, with the first hearing allowing the Australian Government to present the case for the ratification of the TPP.

"Once this first hearing is complete, it is expected that JSCOT will travel to State capitals and regional Australia to ensure we have a diverse range of views before reporting to the Parliament," he said.

## **Public Hearing Details:**

**Time:** 11.10AM – 1.00PM

**Date:** Monday, 22 February 2016

**Location:** Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra

[Live Webcast \(Audio only\)](#)

Further information, as well as details for those wishing to make a submission in to the inquiry on the TPP, can be found on the [JSCOT](#) website. All submissions are due by **Friday, 11 March 2016**.

Alternatively, interested parties may email [jsct@aph.gov.au](mailto:jsct@aph.gov.au) or phone (02) 6277 4002.

## **MEDIA ENQUIRIES**

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