

## Global trade deals could pry open EU market for GM crops

President Obama and his Senate GOP critics are locked in a long-simmering feud, but there's one topic that has them clasping hands and singing kumbaya: global free-trade deals. The erstwhile foes are joining forces to push two massive ones: the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).

The GMO seed pesticide industry, potentially stands to gain from the TTIP, because the European Union has much more restrictive regulations on rolling out novel crops than does the United States. Attempting to drum up support for the fast-track bill on Capitol Hill, USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack and US Trade Representative Michael Froman have been promising to use the proposed treaty as a hammer to force broader acceptance in the EU.

But what's good for the biotech industry isn't necessarily good for the country. As the *Intercept's* Lee Fang [reports](#), Obama's Office of the United States Trade Representative, which is negotiating the trade deals, is shot through with former biotech-industry flacks. The fast track bill would further curtail public debate on a treaty process that's already been [notoriously secretive](#). I hope Democratic senators defy the president on this one.

**The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [Obama Is Poised to Give GMO and Meat Companies Something They've Always Wanted](#)**