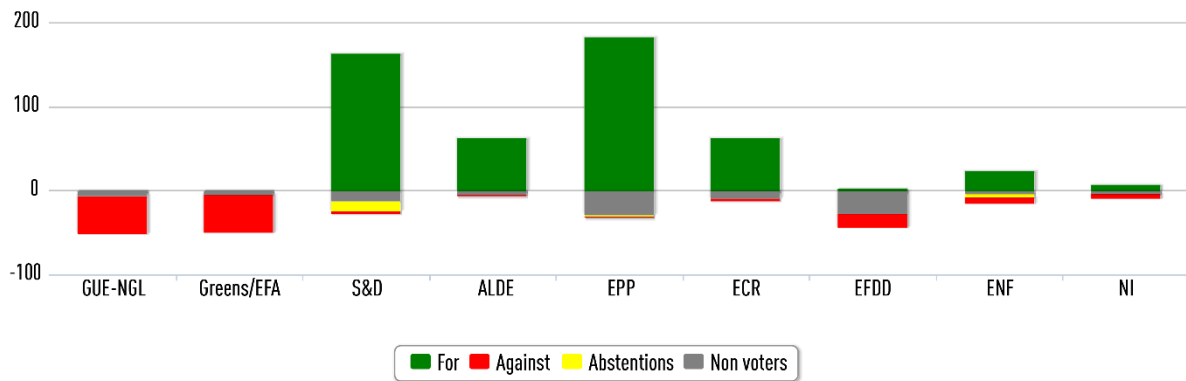


## Should trade secrets be protected?

The vote of the MEPs

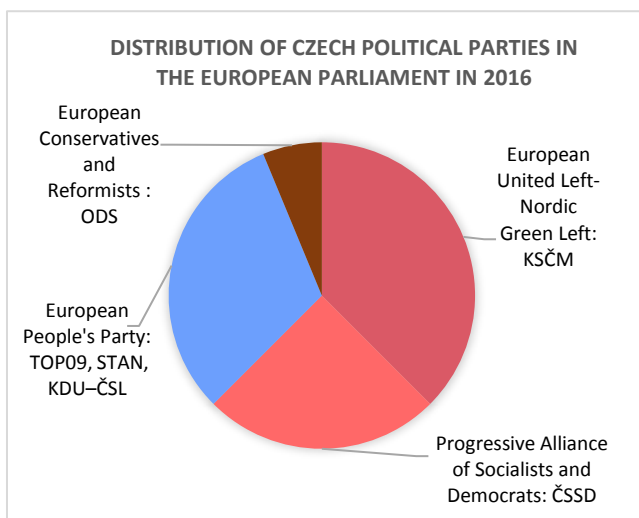


Constance Le Grip, a Republican MEP from France drafted a legislative report on the harmonisation of the definition and protection of know-how and business information across all Member States.

The EP approved her report by a large majority (77%) made up of the S&D, ALDE, EPP, ECR and ENF. On the other hand, the other political groups, namely the Greens/EFA, GUE-NGL and the EFDD, opposed the report.

The directive was first drafted in 2013, when the European Commission provided a common definition of business secrets, as well as a framework for the victims of business secrets' thefts to claim compensation. However, the text was also criticised for its alleged negative consequences on freedom of information.

In this case, Czech MEPs voting choices followed the same pattern as with the rest of the plenary. A clear majority of Czech MEPs were in favor of it. In particular, TOP 09, ANO 2011, the Civic Democratic Party and the Christian Democrats supported the legislative resolution regarding the protection of trade secrets against their unlawful acquisition, use and disclosure.



However, opposition was higher on the left: if, on the one hand, the opposing vote of the Communist party is not particularly surprising, two members of the Czech Social Democratic Party did not follow the line of S&D. In fact, Jan Keller abstained on the report, whereas Pavel Poc was the most opposed to the new measures to protect trade secrets. Instead, the other two members of the Social Democratic Party, Olga Sehnalová and Miroslav Poche, supported the new directive.

## Should trade secrets be protected?

The vote of MEPs elected in Czech Republic\*

For

Dita CHARANZOVÁ



ANO 2011

ALDE

Martina DLABAJOVÁ



ANO 2011

ALDE

Petr JEŽEK



ANO 2011

ALDE

Pavel TELIČKA



ANO 2011

ALDE

Evžen TOŠENOVSKÝ



Civic Democratic Party

ECR

Jan ZAHRADIL



Civic Democratic Party

ECR

Luděk NIEDERMAYER



Top 09 and Mayors

EPP

Stanislav POLČÁK



Mayors and Independents

EPP

Jiří POSPÍŠIL



Top 09 and Mayors

EPP

Michaela ŠOJDROVÁ



Christian and Democratic Union –  
Czechoslovak People's Party

EPP

Jaromír ŠTĚTINA



Top 09 and Mayors

EPP

Pavel SVOBODA



Christian and Democratic Union –  
Czechoslovak People's Party

EPP

Tomáš ZDECHOVSKÝ



Christian and Democratic Union –  
Czechoslovak People's Party

EPP

Miroslav POČE



Czech Social Democratic Party

S&D

Olga SEHNALOVÁ



Czech Social Democratic Party

S&D

Against

Petr MACH



Party of Free Citizens

EFDD

Kateřina KONEČNÁ



Communist Party of Bohemia and  
Moravia

GUE/NGL

Pavel POC



Czech Social Democratic Party

S&D

Abstain

Jan KELLER



Czech Social Democratic Party

S&D

Absent

Jaromír KOHLÍČEK



Communist Party of Bohemia and  
Moravia

GUE/NGL

Jiří MAŠTÁLKA



Communist Party of Bohemia and  
Moravia

GUE/NGL