EU trade with Trump would undermine international climate commitments

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Three years ago, widespread protests took place across Europe against a planned trade deal between the EU and the US. It was eventually halted. In order to avoid President Trump slapping tariffs on imports of EU-made cars, EU governments are now planning to agree terms to start negotiating a new transatlantic trade deal.

EU and national decision makers have stated that the EU will only negotiate trade deals with countries signed up to the Paris Agreement. Trump has declared that he will take the USA out of it.

Thousands of citizens – especially school children – are currently marching in the streets demanding immediate action from decision makers on climate change.

European decision makers need to listen to the citizens they serve, and show the world that the EU takes the Paris Agreement seriously. There should be no negotiations with countries that show neither ambition nor action on climate change and environmental protection.

Global commitments towards stopping climate change must come before the interests of the EU car lobby. Hard-won standards that protect people and the planet should come before trade deals.

As a minimum, EU decision makers must keep their word, uphold the Paris Agreement and not mandate new trade negotiations with the USA.

But the situation is urgent, and they must go further.

As civil society groups, we call on the European Commission, national governments and EU parliamentarians to use every political and financial tool at their disposal to speedily and justly end the fossil fuel age now. We must avoid the chaos, droughts and rising tides of 1.5 degrees or more of global warming, and bring about a safer, fairer, and cleaner Europe.

Signatories

International groups: Global Legal Action Network, GRAIN, Greenpeace, Health and Trade Network

European groups: ClientEarth, Corporate Europe Observatory, Friends of the Earth Europe, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP) Europe, Slow Food Europe

National groups

Austria Attac Österreich

Belgium Bond Beter Leefmilieu, CNCD-11.11.11, vzw Climaxi

Bosnia and Herzegovina Centar za životnu sredinu/ FoE Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bulgaria Za Zemiata, FoE Bulgaria

Cyprus Friends of the Earth Cyprus
Denmark  NOAH Friends of the Earth Denmark

England, Wales and Northern Ireland  Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland

France  350.org France, ActionAid France - Peoples Solidaires, Alofa tuvalu, Amis de la Terre France (Friends of the Earth France), Confédération paysanne, Fondation Nicolas Hulot, Réseau Action Climat – France, SumOfUs, Veblen Institute

Germany  Arbeitsgemeinschaft bäuerliche Landwirtschaft (AbL), BUND (Friends of the Earth Germany), Netzwerk Gerechter Welthandel, PowerShift e.V.

Greece  Naturefriends

Hungary  MTVSZ/Friends of the Earth Hungary, Védegylet Egyesület

Ireland  Keep Ireland Fracking Free

Italia  Coordinamento Nazionale No Triv, Fairwatch, Stop TTIP/CETA Italia, Terra! Onlus

Luxembourg  Mouvement Ecologique

Malta  Friends of the Earth Malta

Romania  Lubim Natura

Slovenia  Umanotera

Spain  Amigos de la Tierra España, Argentinos en España, Asociación de Permacultura ATTA, ATTAC España, Campaña "No a los Tratados de Comercio e Inversión", Campanya Catalunya No als Tractats de Comerç i Inversió, DIEM25, Ecologistas en Acción, Entrepueblos/Entrepobles/Entrepobos/Herriarte, Lafede.cat - Organitzacions per a la Justícia Global, Plataforma Auditoría Ciudadana Deuda PACD Sevilla, SETEM MCM, Unión General de Trabajadores (UGT)

The Netherlands  Both ENDS, Milieudefensie, Platform Aarde Boer Consument, Platform Duurzame en Solidaire Economie, TTIP, CETA and agriculture coalition, WILPF NL

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