

Take action with the Global Justice Now youth network

Just eight people own the same wealth as half the world's population. The rules of the global economy put corporations ahead of ordinary people and the environment. Racism and fascism are on the rise across the globe.

The good news is there are movements across the globe, often led by young people, fighting back and showing that another world is possible. Global Justice Now is proud to be part of this global struggle. We mobilise people in the UK for change and act in solidarity with those fighting injustice, particularly in the global south. Our members, supporters and activist groups are at the heart of our campaigning.

The network

Young people across the world are being hardest hit by the problems created by middle aged, powerful white men. So in autumn 2016 we set up a **youth network**, run by and for young people who want to campaign for social justice and a better world.

The youth network is a part of Global Justice Now's wider activist network, but also organises its own events and activities.

Groups and activists in the youth network campaign on a wide range of issues, but to maximise our impact we're focusing on three key issues right now: fighting **toxic trade deals**, standing up for **migrant rights** and taking on the power of **big pharma** and demanding affordable medicines for all. These are the therefore the areas in which we can provide the most support, if you want to campaign on something else just let us know and we will help as much as we can or point you in the right direction.



Manchester taking action at the Conservative Party Conference Demo's demanding an end to toxic trade deals.

See the bottom of this guide for a quick intro to our campaigns; you can read about them in more depth on the [Global Justice Now website](#).

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Getting active

Want to join the fight against corporate power and racism and for a more equal world? Here's how you can do so through the youth network:

Taking action online

Online action can be a way of joining with thousands of others to demand change through petitions and emails to decision-makers, spreading awareness with others through social media. We think taking action 'in real life' is crucial as well, but online is a good place to start.

[Sign up to the youth network email list](#) stay informed about urgent online actions plus campaign updates, information about events and other opportunities. Our [youth network Facebook group](#) is another space where information is shared online.

Join a youth network group

At the heart of the youth network is a set of activist groups across the country. Groups in the youth network organise activities on the things they're passionate about, whether that's protesting corporate trade deals, travelling together to international events, holding public meetings or arranging film screenings, music nights and social events. They have support where they need it from experienced organisers working at Global Justice Now.

Our youth groups are in the following towns and cities. If you're nearby, email Tamara (tamarahopewell@globaljustice.org.uk) and she'll put you in touch with your nearest group:

- London
- Manchester
- Leeds
- Nottingham
- York
- Falmouth

We also know people in **Liverpool**, **Bradford** and **Edinburgh** who are keen to set groups up, so email Tamara to be put in touch with them and get something off the ground!

No group near you?

If there's no youth network group in your area, maybe one of our other activists groups is – [check our list of local groups](#) and if there's one near you then get in touch.

But you don't need to join an existing group to take action - we can help you get started with campaigning and maybe even get a new group going in your area. Email tamara.hopewell@globaljustice.org.uk and we'll take it from there.



Global Justice Falmouth at the Fresher's fair, 2017

Support for your activism

The youth network organises national meetings and gatherings where activists can come together and share ideas, experiences, skills and get to know each other. On top of that, Global Justice Now can support you in a variety of other ways:

Resources

Global Justice Now produces materials to explain the issues we're fighting on and to help local campaigning. Here are three key resources:

- **Starter packs** on each of our key campaigns – trade, migration and pharma. Each pack contains briefings, leaflets, posters, stickers, badges, stunt ideas and more. Order a starter pack from tamara.hopewell@globaljustice.org.uk
- [Think Global](#) is our monthly newsletter for activists. This is a great way to stay up to date with news on our campaigns and ideas for action
- Our ['how-to' guides](#) explain key skills for activists, from running a meeting, to organising creative actions to lobbying decision makers.

Training

Our team of experienced organisers can provide training for groups on the skills needed for campaigning and activism. Here's the list of trainings available:

- Facilitating meetings
- Planning stunts or protests
- Organising public meetings
- Campaign strategy
- Using social media for activism
- How to have persuasive conversations
- How to run a campaigning group
- How to lobby decision makers



Leeds hosting our sick of corporate greed event with Leeds Student Stop Aids Society.

To book a training, email tamara.hopewell@globaljustice.org.uk. If there's something else you need that isn't on this list, let us know and we'll try and help or put you in touch with someone else.

Staff organisers

Global Justice Now has a team of organisers who support the youth network and our wider activism.

Tamara Hopewell Barreda is the youth activism coordinator at Global Justice Now. Contact her at tamara.hopewell@globaljustice.org.uk



Ed Lewis is Global Justice Now's national organiser. He works with the network of local groups to maximise the impact of Global Justice Now's campaigns and develop a culture of vibrant and effective activism. Contact him at ed.lewis@globaljustice.org.uk



Laura Williams is Global Justice Now's northern organiser. She supports people taking action on global issues in the north of England. Contact her at laura.williams@globaljustice.org.uk



Kirsty Haigh is Global Justice Now's Scotland organiser. She also works part-time as the campaigns director for Jubilee Scotland which campaigns for international debt justice. Contact her at kirsty.haigh@globaljustice.org.uk



Appendix: a quick intro to Global Justice Now campaigns

To create a different world we need to bring about change right across our society. But to maximise our impact, we're focusing on three crucial issues that demand our attention today:

- **Toxic trade deals** Trade deals affect the food we eat, the rights we have at work and how we protect the environment. Corporations want to use trade deals to boost their profits, no matter the effect on people or planet, and at the moment our politicians don't even want the public to see what deals they're negotiating.
- **Migrant rights** War, poverty and exploitation are creating mass forced migration, but increasingly migrants are under attack and blamed for society's problems. We're standing up for people's right to move and against the climate of hostility promoted by our government and media.
- **Big pharma** millions of people around the world suffer and die from treatable conditions because medicines are too expensive, and even the NHS is struggling to pay the extortionate prices that companies charge. We need to change the rules of the pharmaceutical industry so it truly works in the public interest.
- System change not climate change