

# THINK GLOBAL

Act locally with  
Global Justice Now



Caroline Griffin/Global Justice Now.



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## Action checklist

### **Greece**

- Organise an event around the Greek crisis (see page 4)

### **Trade justice**

- Pressure your local council to become a TTIP Free Zone
- Organise the distribution of No TTIP Times at local union branches

### **Food sovereignty**

- Organise group members to attend the Food Sovereignty Gathering in October.
- Organise a stall using the new materials on agroecology and the New Alliance.
- Use the new MPs' briefing to pressure your MP to support agroecology.

### **Climate/energy**

- Organise members to go to Paris for the mobilisation around the COP.

# Letter from the activism team

This is my first letter since the general election, which many in our organisation saw as a sad moment in the struggle for global justice, with a government elected that is committed to many of the policies and structures that we seek to challenge. But this has been followed by a wave of activity and protest, on both the domestic and international fronts. From protesting against austerity, to solidarity with Greece to opposition to TTIP, not to mention the upcoming Paris COP and the national food sovereignty gathering, the rest of this year looks set to be a crucial period for progressive activism, and one which our network can play an important role in.

We've also just had our own vote, at the AGM in Glasgow. At this event our members decided unanimously to endorse the new strategy, following much discussion and consultation across the network. The strategy contains a number of provisions that we have collectively committed to. Two that are worth noting: first, a commitment to 'campaign in a more flexible and reactive way'. It was discussed in the AGM how we should both focus on long-term campaigns, whilst also aiming to be more responsive to events as they develop. One example of this is our decision to take action on the Greek crisis, supporting Jubilee Debt Campaign's work, and we are proposing that groups organise events around this issue – see page 4.

Second, we resolved to reach out more widely, to create an increasingly diverse network. This is not a new agenda, and it is one that many groups have been mindful of for some time. But as staff we are looking to commit more energy to this task. One activity we are undertaking is Take Back Our World festival, which we are co-organising with a youth activist network, Students Against TTIP. This is not an exclusively youth event, however – we would love to see group members there. Also in July, I will be working on Demand the Impossible, a summer school on politics and activism aimed at young people from working class and ethnic minority backgrounds in London. This year Global Justice Now is supporting the event, and we are organising a follow-up day specifically on global issues with participants.

Lastly, due to the many commitments the activism team is undertaking, the redesigned version of Think Global will not be out until the next edition in September. There will be an email update – Think Global Extra – next month as there was in June.

Happy campaigning!

**Ed Lewis**  
Groups officer

## Inserts

### Food sovereignty

- Action card: Growing Power.
- Report: Irresponsible Investment (groups only)
- Briefing: Growing evidence against the New Alliance.
- Leaflet: Food sovereignty gathering.

### Trade justice

- TTIP Free Zones: Sample of campaign pack materials.

### Climate and energy justice

- Briefing: COP out: Why Paris won't deliver and what we need instead.

# Outreach resources

## Corporate Monopoly

The Corporate Monopoly game is proving a great success. We've had great feedback from all the groups which have used it so far. Fun was particularly had by the Cambridge group who took the giant-sized board to a local strawberry fair. They were really impressed at the spontaneous interest the game generated and the many participants who took photos. The blog post they wrote about it can be found on their website ([globaljustice.org.uk/cambridge](http://globaljustice.org.uk/cambridge)).

We also used the giant version successfully at Glastonbury festival at the end of June, where it really helped attract attention, even for people who didn't end up actually playing it. Because it relates to all of our campaigns, it can be a pre-cursor to getting people to sign whichever campaign action you're using on the day



If you'd like to use the giant board or smaller one (for use on tabletop stalls), you can order them from Alice on 020 7820 4900 or [activism@globaljustice.org.uk](mailto:activism@globaljustice.org.uk).

## Reminder: social media training available

The communications team is offering workshops for groups in social media. An increasing number of groups are using social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter, which can have a number of benefits for campaigning.

The Autumn is a good time for the team and the workshops can be tailored to suit the needs of groups – both for those new to social media and those who are already using it. If you would like to arrange a workshop, please contact [corin.pearce@globaljustice.org.uk](mailto:corin.pearce@globaljustice.org.uk).

## Event idea: The crisis in Greece – film night and discussion



At the time of writing there is an acute crisis at the heart of Europe, centred on the resistance of the Greek government to the austerity measures being imposed by the troika, and the use of debt as a form of political control.

It is clearly a moment of enormous significance for Europe, and which has implications for the entire world. And it relates closely to our new strategy – in particular our ambition to campaign in a more flexible and reactive way, in order to be engaged with political events as they develop.

So, we encourage groups who have the capacity to organise a film and discussion event on the Greek crisis. We can arrange for a speaker, depending on availability. Possible speakers are **Nick Dearden**, our director, and **Jonathan Stevenson** from Jubilee Debt Campaign, with whom we have been working on the issue of Greek debt and **Marina Prentoulis**, a Syriza spokesperson in the UK. We can also provide a set of film clips, including from Catastroika and Debtocracy to accompany their talks.

This idea was inspired by Global Justice Gloucestershire, who put together a series of clips on both TTIP and the Greek crisis for a public discussion in June.

If you are interested in organising an event, contact [activism@globaljustice.org.uk](mailto:activism@globaljustice.org.uk).

# Food sovereignty

## The New Alliance in action

In June, we launched a new report, *Irresponsible Investment*, jointly with our allies the Oakland Institute and Greenpeace Africa. The report reveals how a New Alliance-backed rice plantation in Tanzania has led to a host of negative consequences for the local community. The locals were promised benefits from the scheme. But instead they have suffered debt, environmental damage and unfair displacement. Far from being a model of successful agriculture, this flagship project demonstrates the problems of large-scale agricultural development and its impact on small-scale farmers. The findings of the report are based on four years of research, meeting with villagers on the ground and giving them a platform to tell their story. A copy of the report is enclosed for all groups. Further copies can be ordered from the office.

## MP lobbying

The Tanzania case is another example of mounting evidence of the problems of pushing corporate-controlled agriculture in Africa. We have compiled all of these cases into one briefing which will be helpful when lobbying new MPs on the New Alliance. A parliamentary briefing is enclosed for all groups and more can be ordered from the office. You can give this briefing to your MP when you meet them. This will be the first time that groups will be lobbying MPs since the general election, so if you have a new MP in your constituency you can use this opportunity to introduce yourselves and the work of Global Justice Now more generally.

## 'Growing Power' action cards

We have produced some new postcards for groups to use on stalls during the summer. These cards introduce the idea that small-scale sustainable agriculture or agroecology is a much better alternative to corporate-controlled agriculture. This is a set of three

postcards – one postcard explains briefly what agroecology is, the second is a postcard to send to your MP and the third is a blank postcard to give away and share with others about agroecology.

## New films

In May, Global Justice Now food campaigner Heidi Chow and Morten Thaysen from the communications team went to Ghana to visit our allies who are actively fighting against the new seed legislation – backed by the New Alliance – which will threaten farmers seed systems. They met with the key groups and campaigners who are organising a broad coalition in Ghana to oppose the new law. They also took the opportunity to meet with small farmers and rural womens' groups who were using agroecology to grow food for themselves and local community.



We used the trip to produce two short films for public engagement. The first of these, *Whoever Controls the Seeds Controls the Food System*, is complete. Watch it and download it on the website here: [www.globaljustice.org.uk/seeds-film](http://www.globaljustice.org.uk/seeds-film).

The second film, on agroecology, is in production and will be ready soon. If you would like to have a copy of this or both films on a USB memory stick, please contact [dan.iles@globaljustice.org.uk](mailto:dan.iles@globaljustice.org.uk).

# Climate and energy justice

## Energy privatisation: visit from Ken Henshaw

As many of you will know, energy activist Ken Henshaw from Social Action in Nigeria, visited in the UK in June to speak at our Shifting Ground conference in Glasgow – many of you would have seen the excellent talks that he gave at this event on the impacts of the UK-supported energy privatisation in Nigeria.

Also during his visit we organised meetings for him with the teams of the Labour and SNP development spokespeople (Gavin Shuker and Patrick Grady, respectively), and with the Department for International Development (DfID) where we spoke with Susanna Moorehead who directs DfID's West and Southern African work.

In the meeting with DfID there was some common ground in that we all agreed that the Nigerian energy system is not working, and it is especially not working for the least well-off in the country. However, Ken was able to speak first-hand about how DfID's approach of supporting privatisation is in fact making the situation worse, with higher bills and less power available, meaning even more frequent power cuts.

Susanna wasn't able to answer many of the questions we had about the project, including why this approach is being pursued when time and again it has failed, and why there is no measurement of how the project is affecting those living in poverty, such as how many people have access to electricity, and whether they can afford it. We plan to follow up on this with the relevant civil servants.

We have also made a short video of Ken talking about the impacts of privatisation which we hope to share with you all soon.

## Reclaim the Power

Global Justice Now were at Reclaim the Power's (RtP) mass action camp which took place at Didcot power station from the 29 May to 2 June, which was part of an international weekend of climate action ahead of the UN climate talks (COP) in Paris in December. The weekend involved training, workshops and a day of action against the fossil fuel industry and the Big Six stranglehold on our energy supply. We ran three workshops, one on the Paris COP and another two on energy democracy.

Photos from the weekend can be seen online at [nodashforgas.org.uk](http://nodashforgas.org.uk).

## UN climate summit in Paris

We are under no illusions about a fair and adequate agreement coming out of the UN climate negotiations (COP) in Paris in December, and have produced a briefing explaining this in more detail, which is included in this edition.

However, we believe that the attention the event will receive from campaigners, decision-makers and the global media as a key opportunity to build a broad movement that can force the change we need to see to tackle climate change.

To this end, we are starting to organise for Global Justice Now activists to travel to Paris for mobilisations at the end of the COP, which will show that people power is the real answer to the climate crisis. It would be great to think about how many people from your group will want to come to Paris, so that we have an idea of numbers – contact [james.o'nyions@globaljustice.org.uk](mailto:james.o'nyions@globaljustice.org.uk) if your group members are interested.

# Events

## Take Back Our World festival

**Tapeley Park, Devon, 17-19 July**

Groups will be aware that we are organising a festival, Take Back Our World, together with Students Against TTIP, a youth activist network we have been working with.

Note that the festival is finishing on Sunday 19 July and coaches will return that evening, not on Monday 20 July as previously advertised.

The programme is becoming increasingly exciting. Speakers include the following:

- David Graeber, academic, Occupy Wall Street activist and author of author of *Debt: The First 5,000 Years*
- Molly Scott Cato MEP (Green Party)
- Nick Dearden, director, Global Justice Now
- Mel Evans, activist and artist with Liberate Tate, author of *Artwash: Big Oil and the Arts*
- Jody Boehert, designer, activist and director of Ecolabs
- Samir Dathi, Brick Lane Debates, author of *System Crash*
- Mya Pope-Weidemann, *This Changes Everything*
- Activists from Free University London

And there'll be some great music and performance, including the following:

- Kalyan, jazz and dub band from Leeds
- Tudor Lion, reggae DJ with Channel One
- Natural Curriculum, hip-hop collective from Manchester

Expect participatory, innovative workshops; a creative exploration of space; film screenings and celebration.

For full details regarding transport, accommodation and tickets, see [www.globaljustice.org.uk/tapeley-festival](http://www.globaljustice.org.uk/tapeley-festival).

Tickets can be bought through Eventbrite here: [eventbrite.co.uk/e/take-back-our-world-festival-tickets-17138905929](http://eventbrite.co.uk/e/take-back-our-world-festival-tickets-17138905929) (or follow the link from our website). To avoid the booking fee, book via the office on 020 7820 4900.

## Europe's Unfair Trade Rules

**When:** Tuesday 18 August, 2pm-3pm

**Where:** St. John's Church, Princes Street, Edinburgh EH2 4BJ

As part of Edinburgh's Just Festival, Global Justice Now will be speaking alongside Pete Ritchie (Nourish Scotland and Whitmuir organic farm) and Eve Hayes de Kalaf (Haiti Support Group) about how Europe's trade rules affect farmers across the world, how new mega-trade deals like TTIP and CETA will affect farmers and ordinary citizens in Europe too, and what we can do to change things.

This is a free event, but please book online. Go to [just-festival.org](http://just-festival.org) and search for 'trade'.

## National food sovereignty gathering

**When:** Friday 23-Monday 26 October

**Where:** Hebden Bridge/Todmorden, West Yorkshire HX7

Global Justice Now is helping the UK food sovereignty movement to organise a national gathering in October. Join us for four days of discussions, organising, skill sharing and action planning - all aimed at strengthening the movement for a democratic, sustainable and fair food system in the UK and globally.

To find out more and register your interest in coming along, go to: [foodsovereignty.org.uk](http://foodsovereignty.org.uk)

# Trade justice



Edinburgh Council passed a motion against TTIP at the end of June, only a day after Lewisham Council did the same.

## TTIP free zones

At a packed fringe meeting at the Unison local government conference in Glasgow on 14 June, Global Justice Now and Unison announced the beginning of the TTIP free zones campaign, aimed at getting local authorities, boroughs, towns, cities, counties and parishes to pass policy against TTIP. At the campaign webpage on our site ([globaljustice.org.uk/ttipfreezone](http://globaljustice.org.uk/ttipfreezone)) you can check the map of where a TTIP Free Zone motion has been passed already, where there is an ongoing effort to pass one, and where a motion was tried and failed.

We have produced a TTIP Free Zone campaign pack. A sample of the materials from the pack is included with this mailing. If your group would like to order a whole pack, email [guy.taylor@globaljustice.org.uk](mailto:guy.taylor@globaljustice.org.uk). In addition, on the website there are template materials that can be customised to suit your group's particular needs – a poster to which the name of your town, city or county can be added, and an editable version of the No TTIP motion we have drafted.

TTIP free zone campaigning can also be adapted for universities, colleges and workplaces. Give it a go – many people are reporting a more favourable reception than they were expecting to this kind of activity.

## European parliament vote

In June the Socialists and Democrats group in the European parliament (which includes Labour) acted to postpone the indicative vote due on ISDS and TTIP. They are planning to hold the vote for real in July. A key argument is between support for amendment 27 which calls for ISDS to be scrapped in the trade deal, and amendments 114 and 115 which call for a public court for ISDS cases to be heard as opposed to the secretive tribunals that are currently planned by negotiators. We are calling on all MEPs to outright oppose ISDS and if amendment 27 is not passed to vote against the resolution in its entirety - no deal being better than a bad deal.

We are not organising a mass emailing to MEPs on this vote (we have been inundating them of late!), but we would encourage members and groups of Global Justice Now to write to their MEPs in their own words outlining their thoughts.

## NoTTIP Times

We handed out over 2000 copies of NoTTIP times on the 20 June demonstration against austerity. We have stocks remaining. Try to get your union branch or other group to order them (preferably in multiples of 200).



## European Citizens' Initiative – bigger, faster!

Incredibly the speed of signatures coming in to the ECI has actually increased since the total passed 2 million. The number now stands at over 2.2 million. It is not infeasible to try to get a final total in the region of 3 million, when the petition closes on October. In the UK that would need us to collect another 50,000 signatures. Be sure to be asking people in your neighbourhood, workplaces, social venues or elsewhere. A team of volunteers at Glastonbury festival collected 1700 signatures from festivalgoers (photo below).



## Using the Early Day Motion

Early Day Motion 146, which opposes ISDS in TTIP, was tabled in parliament on 17 June by a very mixed group of MPs – Tory, Labour, SNP, Green and Plaid Cymru. This presents an excellent chance to sound out your MP, new or old, about where they stand on TTIP now. There has been a spate of articles, particularly on the Conservative Home blog site throwing doubt from the right on TTIP: John Redwood and Zac Goldsmith are the obvious Tory rebels on the question. Be sure to contact Tory MPs over TTIP. We need to

start sowing seeds of doubt in their minds and hopefully winning a few across to our side to win this campaign.

## Artists against TTIP

Artists Against TTIP, who produced the brilliant video which appeared on the Guardian's website a couple of weeks ago are formally launching their campaign on 2 July - check our website for coverage.

Their own website, where you can watch the video, is [artistsagainstttip.org](http://artistsagainstttip.org).

## Speaker tour in November

We are organising a national speaker tour on TTIP, CETA (the EU-Canada trade deal) and other trade deals in the first week of November. We have confirmed two speakers: **Maude Barlow**, who is the chair of citizen's advocacy group the Council of Canadians; and **Yash Tandon**, the Ugandan academic and trade activist.

Because we are limited to a week-long tour, we will have to pick the places for the meetings carefully, but if your group is keen to host a leg of the tour, please let Guy Taylor know. You would need to commit to local promotion for the event and helping staff to book a venue.

## Diary date: next day of action

The next international day of action is set for **10 October**, four days after the end of the European Citizens' initiative on 6 October.

# Scotland update

With many new Scottish MPs elected in May, we have been keen to ensure that they know what a big issue TTIP is for the Scottish public. Having got an Early Day Motion opposing TTIP tabled in Westminster, we've been asking our local supporters and members of the growing number of 'Stop TTIP' local groups across Scotland to contact their local MPs to call on them to sign it. As we go to print, 20 of the 59 Scottish MPs have signed it.

As part of the national 'TTIP free zone' campaign focusing on local authorities, we have lobbied City of Edinburgh councillors to pass a motion opposing TTIP (Glasgow did so unanimously last December). The Edinburgh motion was passed unanimously

After a successful TTIP assembly at our Shifting Ground conference in Glasgow in June, a Scottish coordinating group for activists involved in organising TTIP activities locally was set-up in order to plan Scotland-wide activity together. The Scotland Against TTIP coalition of trade unions, NGOs, anti-austerity campaigners and others also continues to meet regularly to plan action. Being part of both these things, we intend to help the co-ordinating group of local activists and the Scotland Against TTIP coalition keep in touch and work together as much as possible.



Nigerian campaigner Ken Henshaw speaking at our Shifting Ground event in Glasgow on 13 June.

Summertime action on TTIP in Scotland will include a country-wide tour of the giant inflatable TTIP pencil, created by the European coalition against TTIP, 'Stop TTIP'. We hope the pencil tour will be a fun way to encourage even more people to sign the ECI petition to stop dodgy trade deals like TTIP and CETA which has now reached 2 million signatories. We are also running an event at the Just Festival (more details in the events section).

# Groups news

**Global Justice Leicester** has run stalls on energy privatisation at local festivals and open days, and members have also been lobbying their MPs on climate change.

**Global Justice Merseyside** held a campaign stall at the Liverpool Justice and Peace conference, and organised a film night on energy justice, featuring a range of films from the energy justice film pack sent out earlier in the year.

Tim Ward from **Global Justice Leeds** spoke on climate justice at the summer school of the Centre for Global Development.

**Global Justice Shropshire** are organising to try and get Shrewsbury town council to pass a TTIP Free Zone motion. They are working with other local groups to mobilise residents of Shrewsbury to their councillors, and are hoping to have an automated email system set up on their website.

**Global Justice Reading** has used the Corporate Monopoly game at two different festivals, and have found it a useful tool for public engagement. One group member had the following to say: "The game was engaging and enjoyable. It was a good way of informing people about our campaigns and was less confrontational than presentations. It gave a good chance to synthesise Global Justice campaigns to make overall sense of them."

Group members from Reading noted that the language of the game is relatively complex at times – group members can use the game most effectively if they are able to reduce it.

**Global Justice Gloucestershire** organised two open forum discussions. In May they had a post-election discussion called 'Where do we go from here?' to discuss strategy. And in June they had a film night and discussion linking TTIP and the crisis in Greece.

## More badges available

The badges we had made for the relaunch have run out, but since badges are a popular resource for groups, we're going to make some more.

Order 50 or 100 badges by emailing [activism@globaljustice.org.uk](mailto:activism@globaljustice.org.uk) or calling us on 020 7820 4900. You will get a mixture of straightforward Global Justice Now logos in white on various colours and the 'people before profit' design you got with your relaunch pack.

We also have sheets of stickers left if you would like more of those.

**Kirklees Campaign Against Climate Change** are organising the 'This Changes Everything' film festival on Saturday 4 July. They will be presenting a festival of over a dozen short films exploring themes of environmental and social justice. They are happy to share their ideas and what they have learned through organising the festival with other groups. See more info about the festival at <https://kirkleescampaignagainstclimatechange.wordpress.com>, and contact them on [kirkleesccc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kirkleesccc@hotmail.co.uk).

# Current materials

## Exploring alternatives booklets

- BOOKLET: Another Economy is Possible - economic democracy
- BOOKLET: Seeds of Change - food sovereignty
- BOOKLET: Rays of Hope - energy justice

## Food campaign materials

- **\*\*New** REPORT: Irresponsible Investment
- **\*\*New** BRIEFING: Growing evidence against the New Alliance
- **\*\*New** ACTION CARD: Growing Power
- **\*\*New** LEAFLET: National Food Sovereignty Gathering
- BOOKLET: On Solid Ground (agroecology)
- REPORT: From The Roots Up (agroecology)
- POSTER: Colonial infographic poster
- BRIEFING: Campaign questions and answers
- BRIEFING: MP talking points
- BOOKLET: Stop the corporate takeover of African food
- ACTION CARD: Stop corporations from slicing up Africa
- BRIEFING: Problems with corporate controlled seeds
- BRIEFING: Food sovereignty
- BRIEFING: Food sovereignty tricky questions

## Energy justice

- **\*\*New** BRIEFING: COP out: Why Paris won't deliver and what we need instead.
- LEAFLET: Give corporate controlled energy the boot
- BRIEFING: Energy privatisation in Nigeria
- BRIEFING: Towards a justice energy system (campaign overview)
- LEAFLET: Energy justice 'campaign in a nutshell' (individual and group versions)
- SIGN-ON STATEMENT: Energy Bill of Rights (Fuel Poverty Action)
- ACTION CARD: Energy justice in Nigeria
- BRIEFING: 10 reasons why energy privatisation fails
- FILM GUIDE: List of films relating to the campaign

## Trade

- **\*\*New** TTIP Free Zone campaign pack: POSTER, BADGE and LEAFLET
- NEWSPAPER: The #NoTTIP Times, third edition
- BRIEFING: The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)
- BRIEFING: Profiting from people and the planet (general trade briefing)
- FLYER (A6): Stop the corporate power grab (promoting the European Citizens' Initiative)
- BRIEFING: Campaigning on TTIP in local authorities

## General materials

- LEAFLET: Join a local group leaflet (can be overprinted with groups' contact details)
- SIGN-UP SHEET: Double-sided, Global Justice Now branded
- STICKERS and BADGES

## Riseup email list for groups

The activism team primarily contacts group members through the groups contacts and the Think Global mailing.

However, we wanted to remind you about the riseup email list which any group member can join and which was set up to encourage group-to-group communication. The activism team also occasionally uses it to contact group members more widely, especially with urgent matters or opportunities.

It is a low traffic list – you won't be bombarded! – but we would encourage more people to sign up to it as we think it's useful. To be added to the list email [activism@globaljustice.org.uk](mailto:activism@globaljustice.org.uk)