

TTIP update for Scottish activists

September 2015



We're keen to hear from you about whether this is useful to you – and if you have suggestions for improvements or additions. Please don't hesitate to get in touch.

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Parliamentary Updates

Summer recess

The European, UK and Scottish parliaments have been on summer recess but will all be back in session by the time you receive this update. As a result we don't have much parliamentary news for you in this edition.

Early Day Motion 146 on TTIP at Westminster

Nearly all of the 56 SNP MPs have now signed Early Day Motion 146 opposing TTIP. The only three SNP MPs who have not now signed are Angus Robertson MP (Moray constituency), Peter Grant MP (Glenrothes constituency) and John Nicholson MP (East Dunbartonshire constituency). If you live in any of these MPs' constituencies, please write to them and ask them to sign the EDM.

Out of the three remaining MPs from other parties, Iain Murray, the Scottish Labour MP is a Shadow Minister and David Mundell, the Scottish Conservative MP is a government minister, so both can claim they are unable to sign any EDMs. If you're in their constituencies, please write to them anyway and ask whether or not they support the wording of the EDM. Alistair Carmichael, the Scottish Liberal Democrat MP is able to sign the EDM but has not. Again, if you're in his constituency, please contact him and ask him to sign.

[View the full list of signatories to EDM 146](#)

European Commission and TiSA (the Trade in Services Agreement)

The TiSA negotiators have now completed their 13th round of negotiations. TiSA is the most secretive of all the mega trade deal negotiations, and the deal itself is potentially the most dangerous. There is beginning to be more discussion on TiSA in the

media, and INTA (the European parliament trade committee) has TiSA on its agenda for the coming months. The European Commission is holding a meeting for public stakeholders in Brussels on the deal in this month. [Find more information here](#)

The Director General on Trade also has some introductory information on TiSA [on its website](#).

Activism

October 10 day of action on TTIP

It's been great seeing the pictures and hearing about the different stalls, street theatre and other actions (including many local sightings of the giant TTIP pencil) over the summer. The next big day of action will take place on 10 October. Plans for action on that day are taking shape across the UK and Europe. There is no prescription or specific recommendation for what groups should do. Ideas for actions include street meetings, banner drops, public meetings or rallies, street theatre, flash mobs, stalls, media stunts – whatever you feel you can do best. Please use the Scottish national coordinating group email list to discuss ideas you have had in your local group with other people across Scotland – this was one of the main purposes of setting up the list, so that people could share ideas and coordinate action nationally. If you would like to be added to the national coordinating group list, please email Jane. And if there is anything you want help with around the day of action, please just contact us.

If you are organising an action locally, please upload the details to the map [on the trade4people website](#).

Don't forget to email any pictures or highlights on the day, or after the event, to [Jane and Liz in the Global Justice Scotland office](#).

Stop TTIP banner coming to your city!

We would like to put together a photo montage in advance of the day of action on 10 October, showing that there is resistance to TTIP across Scotland. We would be happy to send you one of our Stop TTIP banners that you could take a photo of with a local landmark in the background. It could be in the city or the countryside, by the coast or the top of a hill. We're sure you'll be able to come up with some great ideas. The banners are 4m x 1.2m and made of lightweight nylon. [Please email Jane if you would like to take part.](#)

TTIP trip to London

As was mentioned in the last edition, the St. Andrews TTIP action group are planning a trip to Westminster in October to lobby Scottish MPs about TTIP. They are planning meetings with MPs, a tour of Westminster, a meeting with our director Nick Dearden and possibly a protest outside a private arbitration court. The group is keen for TTIP activists across Scotland to come with them to London on 20 October. [If you are interested please contact Jean.](#)

SNP autumn conference

Despite the SNP MPs' strong support of the EDM petition to oppose TTIP, the only motion accepted for debate at the SNP party conference does not oppose TTIP outright and does not mention the secret corporate courts (ISDS). It only asks that public services be exempt from the deal. Global Justice Now will be holding a fringe event at the party conference on TTIP and other transatlantic trade deals, with Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh MP, Alyn Smith MEP and Nick Dearden (Global Justice Now), and Lesley Riddoch chairing.

LUSH says no to TTIP

You may be aware that Lush, the purveyors of fancy soap, have a history of supporting campaigns – usually environment and animal rights campaigns, but sometimes other progressive causes.

Starting on Friday 18 September for two weeks, 110 Lush stores around the UK will have anti-TTIP campaign materials on display. This has been negotiated by War on Want. As part of the campaign, individual stores can decide whether they want to do some kind of event instore around the campaign – if a Stop TTIP or Global Justice Now group approached them they would be much more likely to do this I think.

The stores will be giving out a free newspaper called *Contributoria* which has a feature article on TTIP and selling an anti-TTIP shower jelly (!). If you talk to the store manager they might be up for doing an instore TTIP speaker event, or teach-in; or you could just run a Global Justice Now stall outside the store with supplementary materials to their own.

Speaker tour on TTIP and CETA (an EU-Canada trade deal)

We are running a week-long, UK-wide speaker tour on transatlantic trade deals at the start of November which will be particularly focussed on CETA, the trade deal between Canada and the EU that is due to be ratified early next year. The tour will have one stop in Scotland and that will be in Dundee on Sunday 1 November (times and venue still to be confirmed). [Look here for the most up-to-date information](#)

Yash Tandon, a Uruguayan trade justice activist, who has had more than a decade of experience working as a high level negotiator at the World Trade Organisation, is one of the speakers on the tour (although it is still to be confirmed whether or not he will speak in Dundee). He has a new book out called 'Trade is War'. [Find out more about the book here.](#)

Make Scotland a TTIP free zone

Nineteen councils across the UK have now voted in favour of motions opposing TTIP. In Scotland, Glasgow and Edinburgh councils have passed motions and Dundee city council SNP councillors have now put in a motion to be considered later in the year – great work Dundee Stop TTIP group!

[Read Kevin Smith's blog on why TTIP free zones are important.](#)

[There is a website with a map of all the councils who have passed an anti-TTIP motion, as well as resources to help campaigners lobby their local council for a similar motion here.](#)

We also have TTIP free zone campaigner packs which include badges, bookmarks and posters to help with your street campaigning. [Email Jane](#) if you want a pack. We are also very happy to support you to lobby your local council about this. Just email us if you need help taking this forward

E-actions and petitions

Stop corporate vampires from sucking \$4 billion out of Romania

A mining company in Romania is suing the Romanian government after they decided not to go head with a new gold mine that would destroy four mountains in the country. The government is being sued using secret corporate courts established in a treaty with the UK. These are the same secret courts (Investor-State Dispute Settlement) that would be established through TTIP. [Please sign the petition telling David Cameron to review and stop this case.](#)

Westminster TTIP petition

A petition has been created on the Westminster parliament website calling for a referendum on TTIP before it is ratified by the UK parliament. It needs 100,000 signatures to get a debate at Westminster on the subject. [You can sign the petition here.](#)

European Citizens Initiative petition

We have less than six weeks left of the European Citizens Initiative (ECI) petition. At the time of writing there were over 2,690,000 signatures from across the EU, including 408,000 from the UK. It is not beyond the realms of possibility that this total could reach three million by 6 October, but that will take an almighty push. [You can download petition sheets from the Global Justice Now website here.](#)

Alternatively, you can encourage others to sign the petition online [here](#).

Materials

Local Authority briefing

Briefing, poster, and draft motion is available from www.ttipfreezone.org.uk

TTIP local groups flyer

This non-branded flyer has been produced specifically for local groups to use to help them publicise their local group and local action on TTIP.

If you would like us to send some of these flyers to you, [please email us](#) or phone 0131 243 2730.

NoTTIP Times, edition 3

[Please contact Jane](#) and we will send you some copies. [Look at the third edition online here](#)

Briefing on how TTIP might impact Scotland:

[TTIP: The new EU-US trade deal that puts Scottish democracy in danger](#)

Hard copies of the ECI petition (for stalls):

<https://stop-ttip.org/signature-lists/>

TTIP banners

Banners are both 4m x 1.2m and are lightweight, with eyelets on each corner. One says 'No to TTIP, stop the corporate power grab' and the other says 'Scotland against TTIP'. If you'd like to borrow either, please [email Jane](#) at Global Justice Now.

Recent interesting blogs and news articles on TTIP

[Pharmaceutical companies spend 40 million euros a year for 'privileged access' to EU decision-makers](#)

[TTIP vs food sovereignty](#)

[Sven Giegold MEP on the sham of transparency and TTIP](#)

[Corporate vampires have tried to suck \\$4 billion out of Romania, and with TTIP the UK could be next](#)

Local TTIP groups across Scotland

[Stop TTIP Edinburgh](#)

[Global Justice Glasgow](#) (who do regular TTIP actions, linking in with 38 degrees and the trade unions)

[Stop TTIP Aberdeen](#)

[Stop TTIP Dundee](#)

[St. Andrews TTIP Action Group](#)

[Stop TTIP-Highlands](#)

[Stop TTIP Orkney](#) (no facebook page)

[Scotland Against TTIP](#)

Take action

To find out how you can help tackle corporate power and become part of a movement for real change visit www.globaljustice.org.uk or call 0131 2432730.



Global Justice Now campaigns for a world where resources are controlled by the many, not the few, and works in solidarity with social movements to fight injustice. We used to be the World Development Movement.

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