

THINK GLOBAL

Act locally with
Global Justice Now



**Global
Justice
Now**

March 2017

Contents

02 Welcome

03 News roundup

04 Food sovereignty campaign

05 Migration campaign

06 Trade justice

08 Other issues

10 Groups and activism news

12 Current materials

Inserts

Migration

- Marks & Spencer action pack: leaflet, poster, slip and petition
- FAQ for M&S action (groups only)
- Pro-migration stickers

Food

- Farmers Under Fire booklet
- Action card: UN declaration on small-scale producers

General

- National gathering and AGM notification (groups only)
- Additional activism briefings (groups only)

2 March 2017

Anger at Trump can help mobilise progressives



James O'Nions Head of activism

On 30 January, in response to Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' and confirmation that Theresa May had invited him for a state visit, thousands of people around the UK took to the streets.

The demonstration in Whitehall had been called by journalist Owen Jones at 48 hours' notice, and at least 30 other demonstrations around the country took place in response to this. In Whitehall where I was, the protest stopped all traffic for several hours and was filled with witty and angry homemade placards. Several other well-attended protests against Trump have since taken place.

Trump's racist and sexist agenda is truly worrying, and it is already causing huge and inspiring resistance in the US. It's important to stand in solidarity with US movements, but President Trump's policies also have huge implications for us.

He's a climate change denier who has appointed the CEO of Exxon as his secretary of state, threatening even the inadequate agreements we already have on climate change. He may have pulled the US out of the Trans Pacific Partnership, but he's not against trade deals – he just wants ones that even more effectively exploit the rest of the world.

It is one such trade deal, between the US and the UK, which is at the centre of Theresa May's plan for a hard Brexit. This 'TTIP on steroids' has to be stopped if we don't want Brexit to mean turning Britain into a paradise for big business at the expense of our rights and public services. That's one way in which building the biggest possible protest against Trump's state visit, and trying to disrupt that relationship with Theresa May, is directly useful to our campaign agenda.

But more broadly, Trump gets people interested who are not yet engaged in progressive politics. Those people could go on to be trade campaigners, migrant rights activists and movement builders themselves. That's why Global Justice Now helped start the Stop Trump coalition.

Mobilising against Trump is important in itself (see page 8), but it can also help us start conversations with lots more people about global justice issues more generally. Trump is overwhelmingly unpopular with people in the UK, especially younger people. We can turn some of that unpopularity into a positive movement for a better world.

News from Global Justice Now

Media highlights

We've had a string of good stories on trade in the Scottish media. We've placed two stories in the National, one about the Theresa May coming off badly in preliminary trade negotiations with Trump, and one on Liam Fox being very underhand in scheduling debates on the EU-Canada trade deal. While CETA was being voted on, the Herald wrote two pieces based on info from us about the trade deal's impact on regionally protected foodstuffs.

The Observer wrote an analysis piece of the possible US-UK trade deal using some of our arguments and quotes, while Nick Dearden wrote a comment piece on a similar subject for the Guardian opinion section.

Our projection on the Houses of Parliament in advance of the Trump protests was printed in London's Evening Standard, while the video footage of the projection appeared in sites ranging from the Daily Mail and Belfast Telegraph, through to a wide variety of international outlets. And our new head of policy Dorothy Guerrero appeared on the BBC2 Daily Politics programme to discuss the protests.

Youth national gathering

Our new youth network is building up to its first national gathering. **We Rise** will be a day of discussion, debate, live performance

and movement building, followed by an after-party. Speakers include Malia Bouattia (NUS president), Owen Jones (Guardian journalist) and Aaron Bastani (Novara Media). **We Rise is from 2pm-7pm, 1 April, at Goldsmiths University in London.** For anyone under 28. Limited travel subsidies and free accommodation is available for people travelling from outside of London. See globaljustice.org.uk/we-rise for more info and to book a free place.

Take Back Our World Glasgow

Around 300 people took part in this special event at the end of January, organised with the Radical Independence Campaign. There was a very lively atmosphere and inspiring speakers from around the world, making it a great start to the year for us in Scotland.



Dorothy Guerrero, Global Justice Now's new head of policy, speaking at Take Back Our World.

Action checklist

Migration

- Organise an action using our new action pack to demand that Marks & Spencer stops advertising in the Daily Mail

Food sovereignty

- Use our new materials to run a stall on the UN declaration on the rights of small-scale producers.

Stop Trump

- Connect with local allies to build support for Stop Trump activities.

Events

- Spread the word about We Rise on 1 April to young people you know.
- Put the National Gathering in your diary: 10 June

Food sovereignty

UN declaration on the rights of small-scale producers

Small-scale farmers feed the majority of the world's population, yet they are experiencing escalating levels of violence and oppression. To help challenge this trend, a declaration of rights for small-scale food producers is currently under negotiation at the UN Human Rights Council. It is the result of over 15 years of international advocacy, led by La Via Campesina (the world's biggest social movement representing small-scale food producers) and supported by other campaigning organisations and social movements. If approved, the declaration would achieve international recognition of the rights of small-scale food producers and would be a major advancement for the global food sovereignty movement.

In the last round of negotiations last year, the UK government voted with the EU bloc and chose to abstain on the declaration. However, immediately after the EU gave their bloc decision, the UK representative stood up to speak out against it. La Via Campesina has approached us to help with mobilise public pressure on the UK government to support the process.

To do this, we have produced a new campaign booklet and a new action card targeting the Foreign Office, which is responsible for the UK decision. We have included booklets and action cards for each local group. If you require more, you can order them from the office. The UN working group on this declaration will be meeting for its fourth session in Geneva on 15-19 May to continue to negotiate and develop the draft for the declaration. So it would be good if you could get as many action cards as possible signed before then.

We have also launched an animation which you can help share on social media. It's on our Facebook, Youtube and Twitter pages.

Food speculation update

In February, we launched an urgent e-action to try and get the European Commission's proposals on weak food speculation rules rejected in the European parliament. This needed an absolute majority of MEPs to vote to reject the rules and the final result was just short of this. Unfortunately, this means that the weak rules are going ahead. This is massively disappointing as it waters down the regulation that was won through our 2010-2014 campaign.

With our EU allies we did manage to secure some swing votes in the parliament which got us close but just not quite enough. In 2014 we won the principle of position limits which was a historic achievement as Europe has never had these in place before, but the rules about where to set them are now very weak. Each EU member will be using these guidelines so now the onus will be on national pressure to get authorities to set them responsibly.

Glyphosate update

Last year garden centres and DIY stores across the UK saw bottles of Monsanto's flagship weed killer, Roundup, re-labelled with our spoof labels to expose how the chemical glyphosate 'probably causes cancer' according to the World Health Organisation.

The pressure that we and other organisations put on the European commission meant it felt unable to relicence the use of glyphosate for the normal 15 years, but instead went for a short 18-month renewal.

A #StopGlyphosate European Citizens' Initiative has now been launched to try to force the commission not to relicence it at all when it comes up for renewal again. Sign it and share it with your friends and networks at corporateteurope.org/stopglyphosate

Migration

Over Christmas we ran a campaign action challenging the Daily Mail for its divisive and hateful rhetoric against migrants and refugees. Based on the popularity of that campaign we are following up with a series of actions demanding that Marks & Spencer stop advertising in the Daily Mail. Marks & Spencer proudly boasts of its ethical credentials, and was named the UK's most ethical clothing retailer by Ethical Consumer in 2014. But that comes into sharp conflict with their decision to advertise in a newspaper with headlines referring to migrants as 'the biggest threat since the war'.

This work is also inspired by Stop Funding Hate, the online campaign that successfully persuaded Lego to stop advertising in the Daily Mail at the end of last year. Stop Funding Hate is fully supportive of us joining them in challenging the companies that are enabling our media to act in such a shameful way.

This is also an attempt to give groups and activists a sense of what it is like to campaign on migration locally. As mentioned in the last Think Global, we will be consulting the network about our whole campaign agenda in May. For groups and activists to give their view on migration campaigning in particular, we felt it was important to provide an opportunity for local campaigning beforehand.

Finally, for those groups who have run Hope Not Hate workshops, we hope that this activity will provide opportunities for public engagement in which the lessons learnt in the trainings can be applied.

How to use the materials

The M&S-focused leaflet, poster and petition can be used for a conventional stall activity. In addition, we have provided slips which can be discretely placed inside



Slips discretely placed inside products.

products in M&S stores so they are discovered by consumers. Above are some examples of staff hiding the slips in a local store.

For this action to be successful, we encourage groups and activists to share pictures of their actions over social media. Use the popular hashtag #StopFundingHate, which will spread it to more people and raise the pressure on M&S and the Daily Mail.

There's more info accompanying the actions on the FAQ, enclosed

Trade justice

CETA vote in European parliament

As you probably know, CETA was ratified by the European parliament on 15 February. Obviously this is a major setback for our campaign to stop this deal and a blow to democracy in general. Nonetheless, there are a number of positives we can take from the result. Most significantly, our efforts to pressure Labour MEPs were effective. Previously we might have expected the vast majority to vote for CETA, but in fact 11 MEPs voted against, with seven in favour and two abstentions. In addition, the two SNP MEPs voted against, as did the Greens, Plaid Cymru and Sinn Fein.

Despite having pledged to vote against CETA, eight UKIP MEPs failed to show up for the vote. Combined with Tory and Lib Dem support for CETA this meant that, unfortunately, there were more UK votes in favour than against.

What next for CETA?

It looks likely that CETA will be provisionally applied from 1 March. Provisional application means that all parts of CETA that apply to European law will come into force, and the other parts (i.e. investor protection or the corporate courts system) will be on hold until all EU member states have ratified the deal individually. This could take some time, as while CETA is likely to be approved in the UK, some other EU members may find it more difficult to get it through their parliaments.

In the UK the government will publish the deal in parliament. If a negative resolution is not raised against it, the deal will be automatically ratified after 21 days. Labour or the SNP could force a vote on it, but with no obvious Conservative rebels and a section of Labour MPs likely to support CETA, it is unlikely to be defeated. The timetable of this parliamentary procedure is not yet known.



London youth network member Terry delivers a mock eulogy for democracy



Valentines day anti-CETA protest outside Scottish parliament

Trade justice beyond CETA

The Trade in Services Agreement (TISA) is currently on hold pending a decision from Donald Trump's administration over whether they want to proceed with it.

As a result our trade work in the next period will focus on two areas:

- **Democracy and transparency.** Any hope for a more progressive trade agenda must open up and broaden involvement in the process which arrives at a trade agreement. Democracy, transparency and scrutiny have all been conspicuous in their absence in TTIP, CETA and other deals. When it comes to trade deals, there is less opportunity for scrutiny in the UK than in the EU, so we are working with allies on how we can push for more.
- **Our progressive alternative.** We know that members and supporters are keen to be able to talk more about what our alternative to neoliberal trade deals looks like. Although the Alternative Trade Mandate was developed a few years ago by European organisations working

on trade, we want to flesh out some of those principles with a more concrete set of proposals and present something which is relevant in the context of Brexit.

A US-UK trade deal?

A US-UK trade deal, as discussed by Donald Trump and Theresa May during her visit to the US in January, is likely to be worse than anything we have campaigned on to date. Officially there is a rule against the UK negotiating a trade deal while still a member of the EU, however, it would be naïve to imagine this government would abide by that rule. It would also be naïve to believe Liam Fox when he says a US/UK trade deal can be achieved in months without the UK granting huge concessions to US corporations. Watch this space for future developments.

Other issues

Stop Trump

The Stop Trump coalition is now up and running and has already organised a day of action on 20 February, the day on which MPs debated Trump's state visit in response to the two-million strong petition against it. Local versions of the coalition have been set up in some places and the coalition is in the process of recruiting a paid organiser.

Given the potentially broad reach of this campaign, groups might want to consider planning a public meeting on why we should mobilise against the state visit. We can provide speakers if you want to do this. This could be a meeting organised with allies in your town or city, or something more targeted, such as working with a student group to put on an event at a university or college. We don't yet know when the state visit will happen, with speculation

ranging from June to September, but there is potential for the mobilisation against it to go far beyond the usual suspects. To do that, however, we need to start early.

We're planning on producing a Global Justice Now leaflet relating the mobilisation to our campaigns at an appropriate point. We're also working as part of the coalition to create a framework for activists around the country to get involved.

The activism team is happy to advise and support groups who want to mobilise people on this issue. Call 020 7820 4900 or email activism@globaljustice.org.uk. The coalition website is at stoptrump.org.uk and it is also on Twitter and Facebook.



Demonstrators in London at the Stop Trump protest on Feb 20

Corporate power: Big Pharma

We're currently scoping out possible new campaign work on 'big pharma' (big pharmaceutical companies) and how their hunger for profit is denying people the right to health across the world. The pharmaceutical industry is a good example of what happens when huge corporations take control over a whole sector.

Most early drug research is paid for by taxpayers, but big pharma have a virtual monopoly on bringing new medicines on the market. And thanks to international trade agreements, (such as the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights - TRIPS) they can claim decades of patent monopolies and charge extortionate prices for medicines.

We look forward to sharing the findings with you in time for the consultation on our campaign work in May.

Aid: Vindication on Adam Smith International

In February, the Department for International Development (DfID) announced that it had frozen any new contracts with the discredited consultancy company Adam Smith International (ASI). This followed the publication of a parliamentary report that found ASI guilty of attempting to falsify evidence to an official government inquiry.

In our report last year, *The Privatisation of UK Aid*, we showed how ASI has been raking in multi-million pound profits from the UK's aid budget, often by implementing projects that have questionable impacts on poverty reduction. ASI was the lead consultancy behind the £1 billion 'NIAF programme' which set about to privatise Nigeria's electricity sector - a DFID-funded project we campaigned against in 2015-2016.

After working hard to highlight the problems with ASI and their approach to development,

Attac European Summer University



It's inspiring to see international movements working together. The campaign against toxic trade deals have seen millions of Europeans take action against corporate power. Grassroots movements all over Europe are experimenting with alternative ways of running our economy and society, creating solidarity and paving the way to a sustainable and democratic world.

This year's **Attac European Summer University (ESU)** seeks to embolden this pan-European movement. Held in Toulouse from **23 to 27 August**, the ESU will include debates, concerts, cultural activities and meetings with activists from Europe and the rest of the world.

Registration isn't open yet but Global Justice Now staff and activists are already making plans to go. If this interests you it would be great to see you there. Email james.onions@globaljustice.org.uk if you want to be kept informed about our activities at the ESU.

There are also many more details on the ESU website: www.esu2017.org

this is a very welcome move. It shows that Global Justice Now has been right to draw attention to the fact that ASI's work is not having meaningful impacts on poverty reduction – which should be the only purpose of aid spending – despite receiving aid-funded contracts worth hundreds of millions of pounds.

Groups and activism news



Just Trade Edinburgh and Activists Assemble protest on the edge of Edinburgh

CETA actions

In the build-up to the CETA vote in February, a number of groups were active in trying to pressure MEPs to vote against it– with some success regarding Labour and SNP MEPs.

Several groups participated in the anti-CETA day of action on 21 January. **Global Justice Leicester** lobbied local MPs, the city council and MEPS; **Global Justice Central London** organised an anti-CETA stall at a farmers market; **Global Justice Reading** got signatures for a huge card to their Labour MEP (who ultimately voted against CETA); and **Global Justice Bristol** organised a very successful event with Molly Scott Cato MEP where they got 80 action cards signed and recruited new group members.

In Scotland, **Global Justice Glasgow** continued CETA lobbying until the vote took place, using a mix of hand-written letters and cards, emails and tweets. Global Justice Now staff worked with local Stop TTIP groups and activists for a final anti-CETA stunt just before the vote, using cardboard cut-outs of SNP and Labour MEPs to represent their positions on CETA. Scottish activists also spoke to Russia Today and had an anti-CETA article published in Common Space. The combined efforts of activists in Scotland helped ensure that SNP MEPs voted against CETA, despite them having been on the fence right up until the vote.

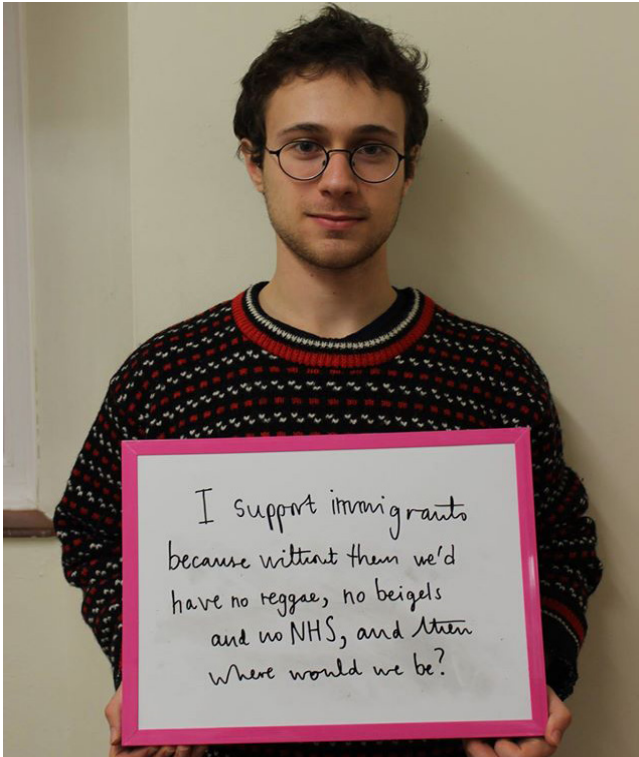
A variety of other creative actions have taken place, such as a mock funeral march for democracy in central London organised by the **Global Justice London youth group**, and the huge anti-CETA mural produced near the centre of Bristol (on the front cover of this issue of Think Global), which **Global Justice Bristol** was instrumental in. **Global Justice Bradford** intervened in local media, speaking on local radio in January to remind people to contact their MEPs about the CETA vote. **Global Justice Cambridge** hand-wrote individual postcards to pressure MEPs against CETA, and **Global Justice Manchester** effectively lobbied three Labour MEPs, all of whom voted against the deal.



Anti-CETA mural organised by the Bristol group

Hope Not Hate training

Ten groups have now run the Hope Not Hate training sessions, 'Having difficult



Gabriel from the York youth group on One Day Without Us. The photo was put on social media



CETA Valentine's Day protest in Scotland



Bridges not walls in Rotherham

conversations about migration', with several more lined up. Almost all the sessions run so far have been fully booked and the feedback has been very positive. Hope Not Hate appears to have some capacity to provide additional training, though within limits. If your group is interested email ed.lewis@globaljustice.org.uk and we will do our best to arrange one.

Anti-Trump activism

There has been a wave of protest activity since the day of Trump's inauguration, including Bridges Not Walls and Stop Trump protests. Many Global Justice Now groups and activists have played an active role in them. Bridges Not Walls banner drops were organised by several groups, including **Global Justice South Lakes, Rotherham for Global Justice** and **Global Justice Manchester**, with the Manchester group appearing on local radio and the South Lakes group getting positive coverage in local press.

The new **Global Justice York youth group** produced a photo montage of messages of solidarity with migrants they collected for One Day Without Us. A lot of photos were sent in to the office but unfortunately we did not have enough space to print them all.

Other activities

Global Justice Central London organised a free film showing of 'This Changes Everything' to around 150 people at a cinema in Dalston. **Global Justice Leicester** also organised a screening of the film in Wakefield, with group member Alison Skinner leading the discussion afterwards.

In addition, the Leicester group organised the Monsanto exhibition at two venues across January and February, with plans for two more venues lined up.

Global Justice Worthing also showed the Monsanto exhibition at a seed fair and a local community centre, with two further exhibitions planned.

Current materials

Food sovereignty

- ****NEW BOOKLET:** Farmers under fire
- ****NEW ACTION CARD:** UN declaration on the rights of small-scale farmers
- **BRIEFING:** Post-Brexit alternatives to the Common Agricultural Policy
- **BRIEFING:** Growing evidence against the New Alliance
- **BOOKLET:** On Solid Ground (agroecology)
- **REPORT:** From The Roots Up (agroecology)
- **BRIEFING:** Problems with corporate controlled seeds

Energy justice

- **LEAFLET:** Repowering the future: Municipal energy in practice
- **BRIEFING:** Towards a just energy system

Trade justice

- **LEAFLET/POSTER:** if you liked TTIP you'll love CETA
- **BRIEFING:** CETA: TTIP's little brother
- **BRIEFING:** Five reasons TTIP and CETA are a disaster for the climate.
- **REPORT:** TTIP and tax justice
- **BRIEFING:** Regulatory Cooperation

Migration

- ****NEW PETITION:** M&S stop funding hate
- ****NEW* LEAFLET:** M&S stop funding hate
- ****NEW* PRODUCT SLIP:** M&S stop funding hate
- ****NEW* POSTER:** M&S stop funding hate
- **LEAFLET/POSTER:** This is not a migrant crisis
- **BRIEFING:** Migrant crisis or poverty crisis?

Exploring alternatives booklets

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

General materials

- **SIGN-UP SHEET:** Double-sided, Global Justice Now branded
- **STICKERS and BADGES**
- **LEAFLET:** 'There is No Alternative' membership leaflet
- **POSTER:** Trumped up world

Activism guides

Organising basics

- How to take action with Global Justice Now
- How to get started with campaigning
- How to hold a great meeting

Outreach and events

- How to run an effective stall
- How to put on a public event
- How to chair a public meeting
- How to take a decent photo

Campaign tactics

- How to make the most of local media
- How to lobby decision makers (MPs and MEPs)
- How to lobby members of the Scottish parliament (MSPs)
- How to spark creative action ideas

National gathering and AGM

Saturday 10 June. Hamilton House, 80 Stokes Croft, Bristol, BS1 3QY

This year's national gathering will take place in Bristol. Details of our speakers, workshops and other sessions will be available soon.

For members, our annual general meeting will take place as part of the national gathering in the morning. There are more details on the notification insert with this Think Global.