

6. Member states' public procurement processes are more likely to favour multinational providers

CETA establishes open access to government procurement processes for multinational and foreign companies. This could limit governments' abilities to support local and not-for-profit providers and force outsourcing to private companies.

7. CETA is a burden on developing countries

Under this agreement, the EU and Canada will restrict access to medicines for people in developing countries due to unfairly imposed intellectual property rights such as extremely long periods of patent protection that prevent cheaper versions of the same medicines from being produced.

8. An internal market between the EU and Canada will result in a 'race to the bottom' in social standards

Opening markets to multinational companies allows manufacturers to seek the country with the lowest health, labour and environmental standards in which to produce their goods. The immediate result of this will be that other countries are under pressure to lower their standards in order to stay attractive to manufacturers and investors, producing a 'race to the bottom' with no real minimum standards in sight.

We can stop CETA! We must stop CETA!

Does your municipal government know the limitations and harmful effects of CETA on your region?

Do your neighbours know how CETA will affect their living standards?

Make sure they do!

Will your MEP vote for this agreement?

Make sure that your MEP's vote gives preference to your rights over corporate interests!

At the moment the European Court of Justice is reviewing a question put forward by the European Commission to decide on the legal matter of competences of the Member States and the EU when it comes to trade agreements. We must emphasise that such comprehensive trade agreements always need ratification by national parliaments. Find out more and join the movement of European citizens that are opposing CETA and other similar trade agreements: www.guengl.eu

The European United Left/Nordic Green Left (GUE/NGL) is a group of 52 Members of the European Parliament from different political delegations who work together on a common vision, under the theme 'Another Europe is possible'.

GUE/NGL MEPs on the International Trade Committee are working with activists from across Europe to try to stop the TISA:

Helmut Scholz
Eleonora Forenza
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The Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between the EU and Canada will put corporate profits before people, governments and the environment.

Let's stop it before it's too late!

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CETA: What is it all about?

More corporate greed, less government regulation and the notorious investor-state dispute settlement mechanism.

In May 2009, politicians from the European Union and Canada started the negotiations towards a Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). The aim is to abolish all the trade barriers between the EU and Canada.

CETA is a comprehensive agreement including all the sectors of the economy. Like other international trade agreements (TTIP, TiSA, TPP), CETA aims to liberalise trade in areas such as public services, public procurement, intellectual property rights, food and agriculture.

Once these sectors have been liberalised, CETA will make it impossible for the EU and Canadian governments to regulate and/or reregulate them.

The negotiations on CETA were completed in August 2014. In October 2015, the text is being reviewed by EU and Canadian lawyers and will then be translated into the various languages. No substantial changes can be made to the text at this stage. The agenda of multinational companies has been embedded in this agreement.

This agreement will trade away the rights of governments and societies in exchange for giving multinational companies access to more markets, leading to a 'race to the bottom' effect on health, labour and environmental standards.

Why must we stop CETA?

1. Public services are under attack

Although there are a few minor exemptions for services that are not covered by the agreement, multinational companies have successfully lobbied to ensure that the agreement applies to all public services and almost all other services, e.g. water, health, social care, energy and more.

2. Multinational companies can sue governments when they don't make a lot of profit

The biggest threat to public services comes from the far-reaching investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) mechanism enshrined in CETA. This mechanism enables companies to sue governments over regulatory changes in public service sectors that affect the companies' expected profits. The claims of these companies can go up to billions of euros in compensation payments. This means that democratically constituted laws will be challenged by investors in private courts.

3. Democratically elected governments will be paralysed via the 'standstill' and 'ratchet' clauses

Multinational companies have lobbied to lock in present and future liberalisation and privatisation of public services. This is achieved through the 'standstill' and 'ratchet' clauses which prevent governments from making new laws or reinstating old laws that support the public provision of services and/or protect public interests.

4. Regulatory cooperation will replace national parliaments

The system of regulatory cooperation in CETA and other agreements (eg. TTIP) will lead to a



situation in which the technocrats of Brussels and Ottawa, together with the lobbyists of multinationals, will decide on which laws and regulations should be abolished or introduced. National parliaments will be surpassed and the European Parliament will only be able to say yes or no to these laws. Democratically elected representatives will be largely undermined.

5. CETA threatens to liberalise health and social care

Under this agreement, almost all of the EU member states will liberalise the health and social care (eg. child care, residential care for the elderly) sectors. This leads to a situation where the protection for patients, clients and workers is undermined by the solely profit-driven practices of multinational companies and their financial investors.