

Stop US/EU Trade pact Save jobs & NHS



Alarms should ring about the proposed EU/US Transatlantic trade and investment partnership (TTIP) being negotiated by the EU Commission on behalf of member states which is due to be completed by December 2014. This will give companies the right to sue Governments over regulations that they don't like under "investor-state dispute settlement" (ISDS) rules, outside of and above the courts systems and Parliaments of member states.

For example, as the British TUC has pointed out, under a different trade agreement, the waste company Veolia is suing the Egyptian Government for increasing the minimum wage.

The focus of the negotiations is on removing regulations and that the scope of the negotiations includes labour laws, food content, environmental standards and protections, working conditions, and in particular, state-provided health and education services. These negotiations are a direct threat to existing standards, union collective bargaining, a cover for privatisation on a massive scale and a threat to democracy. They constitute a programme for a corporate takeover and the EU Commission is a central part of the process, as intended.

The claims made that such an agreement will boost jobs and economic growth should not be believed, especially in the light of the fact that eg the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) has led to 680,000 job losses in the USA rather than the 200,000 extra promised by the former President Clinton.

In view of the threats posed by the proposed EU/US TTIP, the Campaign against Euro-federalism calls upon all labour and progressive organisations to oppose and campaign against the complete agreement.

Campaign against Euro-federalism
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