

H.E. Christian Kern
Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria
Federal Chancellery
Ballhausplatz 2
1010 Vienna
Austria

October 6, 2016

Your Excellency, Chancellor Kern

We, the undersigned, wish to commend you on the concern you have expressed at the potential negative impacts of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between the EU and Canada, and we call on you to vote against the ratification of the agreement when it comes before the General Affairs Council of the European Union this month.

You are aware of the huge concern that exists across Europe as to the unprecedented new powers that will be granted to North American businesses as a result of trade deals such as CETA and the parallel Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) between the EU and USA:

- A record 3.5 million people have signed the European Initiative against CETA and TTIP, from all 28 EU member states.
- The European Trade Union Confederation, representing 45 million workers across Europe, has confirmed its outright opposition to CETA.
- The European Public Service Union, representing 8 million European public service workers, has called for the rejection of CETA over its threat to public services.
- National and regional parliaments in Belgium, France, Slovenia, Luxembourg, Hungary, Netherlands, Bulgaria and Romania have raised serious concerns relating to CETA that could block its ratification at the national level.
- The SPÖ's sister party in the UK, the Labour Party, has just reaffirmed its opposition to any form of investment court system in EU trade agreements, including CETA.

Recent initiatives undertaken to ease the passage of CETA through the ratification process have done nothing to address the fundamental concerns as to the agreement's negative aspects.

EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström has confirmed that the binding declaration proposed to 'clarify' certain issues in CETA will do nothing to alter the text of the agreement. That declaration will be unable, therefore, to address our concerns as to the substance of CETA.

The introduction of the proposed Investment Court System means that CETA will still grant North American investors the right to sue democratically elected European governments in their own privileged judicial system.

The proposal presented to the EU's Trade Policy Committee on 16 September for provisional application of CETA means that substantial parts of this highly controversial agreement will still be brought into force before the democratic process of national ratification has run its course.

We commend your repeated statements of concern as to the potential negative impacts of CETA, and we call on you to defend the rights and interests of the people of Europe from the threats posed by CETA by voting against the ratification of the agreement.

Yours sincerely,

European and International Networks

Alter Summit
European Network against Health commercialisation
Food & Water Europe
Friends of the Earth Europe
Greenpeace
Health and Trade Network
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (Europe)
SumOfUs

Canadian Organisations

Council of Canadians
Common Frontiers
National Union of Public and General Employees
Réseau québécois sur l'intégration continentale (RQIC)
Trade Justice Network

European Organisations

2B Fair Foundation	Poland
Aitec	France
AEFJN	Belgium
Akademie an der Steilküste	Germany
Aktionsbündnis No Moor Fracking	Germany
Alliance D19-20	Belgium
Amandamaji ry	Finland
Arbeitsgemeinschaft bäuerliche Landwirtschaft (AbL)	Germany
Asociația România Vie / Romania Alive Society	Romania
Attac Bizkaia	Spain
Attac Finland	Finland
Attac France	France
Attac Ireland	Ireland
Attac Spain	Spain
Berliner Wassertisch	Germany
BI Fracking freies Hessen n.e.V.	Germany
BI lebenswertes Korbach e.V.	Germany
Biodynamische Forbrugere	Denmark
Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland (BUND) e. V. / Friends of the Earth Germany	Germany
Bürgerinitiative FrackingFreies Hamburg	Germany
Bürgerinitiative Havixbeck	Germany
BürgerInneninitiative Umweltschutz Uelzen	Germany
Campaña estatal "No al TTIP, CETA y TiSA" (España) - 340 organisations	Spain
Citizen's Initiative "Saubere Umwelt & Energie Altmark"	Germany
Civilna iniciativa za sLOVEnijo in svOboDO	Slovenia
CNE	Belgium
Collectif Roosevelt	France
Compassion in World Farming	United Kingdom
Comunitatea Uniți Salvăm / United We Save Community	Romania

Confederación Intersindical	Spain
Confédération paysanne	France
Confédération paysanne PACA	France
Corporate Europe Observatory	Belgium
de-clic.ro	Romania
Ecologistas en Acción	Spain
Ekumenická akademie	Czech Republic
Emmaus Aurinkotehdas ry	Finland
EQUO	Spain
Europe and we Association	Bulgaria
Federation of Independent Trade Unions in Education - FSIE	Romania
FGTB Wallonne	Belgium
Food & Water Europe	Belgium
Forebyggelses- og Patientrådet	Denmark
Forum Umwelt & Entwicklung	Germany
Foundation for environment and agriculture	Bulgaria
Frente Civico Somos Mayoría - Valencia	Spain
Friends of the Earth Denmark	Denmark
Friends of the Earth Finland	Finland
Friends of the Earth Ireland	Ireland
Fundacion Mundubat	Spain
Fundacja Kuźnia Kampanierów	Poland
Fundacja Strefa Zieleni	Poland
Gemeinnütziger Umweltschutzverein pro grün e.V. Paderborn	Germany
Global Justice Now	United Kingdom
GRAIN	Spain
Hazards Campaign	United Kingdom
Initiative stopp TTIP BGL/TS	Germany
Intersindical Valenciana	Spain
Kehys - The Finnish NGDO Platform to the EU	Finland
Klimaat -en vredesactiegroep Pimpampoentje	Belgium
KMU gegen TTIP Germany	Germany
Les Amis de la Terre	France
Links Ecologisch Forum - Forum Gauche Ecologie	Belgium
Maattomien ystävät ry	Finland
May Day	Denmark
Mehr Demokratie e.V.	Germany
Mehr Demokratie e.V. LV Hamburg	Germany
MES - Mouvement pour l'Economie Solidaire	France
Milieudéfense	The Netherlands
Mouvement Utopia	France
National Justice & Peace Network	United Kingdom
Nature Friends Greece	Greece
New Wind Association	Finland
ONEJ	Slovenia
Pah valencia	Spain
Plataforma No al TTIP-CETA d'Elx	Spain
PowerShift e.V.	Germany
Puntarji Slovenije	Slovenia
Rettet den Regenwald e. V.	Germany
Solidary Bulgaria	Bulgaria
StopTTIP UK	United Kingdom

STV Som Energia Valencia	Spain
Transnational Institute (TNI)	The Netherlands
TTIP Network Finland	Finland
UFISC - Union fédérale d'Intervention des Structures Culturelles	France
Umanotera	Slovenia
USTEA (Unión de Sindicatos de Trabajadoras y Trabajadores en Andalucía)	Spain
War on Want	United Kingdom
Wir gegen fracking Lüneburg	Germany
Women Against Nuclear Power	Finland
Women for Peace	Finland
Za Zemiata, Friends of the Earth Bulgaria	Bulgaria
ZELS Združenje etažnih lastnikov Slovenije	Slovenia
ZERO - Association for the Sustainability of the Earth System	Portugal