

Here are 2 ½ pages of information about the TPP and other “free trade” concerns:

**“Free Trade” is an immediate threat to the climate!  
TransCanada will use NAFTA to sue the U.S.  
for stopping the Keystone XL pipeline:**

See article at [www.tinyurl.com/hqwczeu](http://www.tinyurl.com/hqwczeu)

**“Free Trade” vs. the Climate is only the beginning:**

**THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (TPP) THREATENS WORKERS, CONSUMERS, ENVIRONMENT, AND DEMOCRACY ITSELF!  
WE MUST CONVINCE CONGRESS TO SERVE THE BROAD PUBLIC INTEREST, NOT GIANT BUSINESS CORPORATIONS**

On February 4, the trade representatives of the U.S. and 11 other Pacific Rim countries are expected to sign the Trans-Pacific Partnership, so President Obama can formally ask Congress to approve it.

**Now is the time to mobilize public opinion and strongly increase our pressure on Congress to reject the TPP and other “free trade” scams!**

Please connect with the great many non-profit organizations (labor, environmental, pro-democracy, etc.) that can provide information to help you urge Congress to say “NO!”

President Obama is pushing hard for Congress to approve the TPP. Our U.S. Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell support it. As of January 27, 2016, Congressman Denny Heck said he was undecided.

**The TPP has been described as “a backroom deal for the 1%.”** The 99% need to inform ourselves and protect our rights!

**Obama says the TPP is good, but here are the facts that disprove his rosy claims:** See [www.tinyurl.com/z6j5jku](http://www.tinyurl.com/z6j5jku)

**TPP bad for workers:** A new study from Tufts University shows that the TPP will worsen inequality, reduce jobs, and lower wages: [www.tinyurl.com/glrnvuy](http://www.tinyurl.com/glrnvuy)

**The TPP would hurt all of us:** The TPP is much more than a “free trade” deal. In fact, only 5 of the TPP’s 29 chapters deal with trade. Everything else **gives new powers to giant corporations.** The TPP has been described as **a coup in which giant corporations overthrow democracy in the US and other countries.**

**The TPP will undermine our democracy** and turn our sovereignty over to multinational corporations. It will allow corporations to directly sue a national government for the amount of claimed lost profits because of regulations that protect labor, the environment, and public health and safety.

**Examples of how the TPP could hurt us:** The Alliance for Democracy ([www.alliancefordemocracy.org](http://www.alliancefordemocracy.org)) and other respected non-profit organizations say these are just a few things that the TPP could do:

- Offshore even more millions of American jobs and keep worker wages low
- Free the banksters and Wall Street from needed oversight and regulation
- End the popular “Buy American” and “By Local” policies we need for creating jobs and rebuilding our economy
- Decrease access to affordable generic medicines
- Ban food labeling and bring more unsafe food and products into the US
- Continue the push for the privatization of needed services, including education, water and wastewater treatment, transportation, and more
- Perpetuate exploitation of “dirty fuels,” and make it much harder to develop renewable green energy

SEE MORE INFO ON NEXT PAGE

TPP info CONTINUES HERE FROM PREVIOUS PAGE:

**Nobel economist Joseph Stiglitz strongly opposes the TPP:** He is a widely respected economist who won a Nobel prize in economics, served as the World Bank's chief economist, and chaired a U.S. president's Council of Economic Advisors. He has written a number of articles opposing the TPP, including one that said the TPP might "turn out to be the worst trade agreement in decades."

**Stiglitz especially opposes the "investment" chapter:** He says that the chapter on "investment" is very, very much worse than the TPP's provisions about "trade." The "investment" chapter "severely constrains environmental, health, and safety regulation, and even financial regulations with significant macroeconomic impacts." The 6,000-page TPP has enormous potential for causing problems. Like many other analysts, Stiglitz points out that the TPP "gives foreign investors the right to sue governments in private international tribunals" to stop regulations that hurt the TPP's sense of "free trade" as expressed anywhere on its 6,000 pages. The TPP would provoke "costly lawsuits pitting powerful corporations against poorly financed governments – even regulations protecting the planet from greenhouse gas emissions are vulnerable." [www.tinyurl.com/hvrj8wv](http://www.tinyurl.com/hvrj8wv)



**Jim Hightower explains the TPP**

**clearly:** He calls it a "corporate coup d'état against us."

See [www.hightowerlowdown.org/node/3402#.Uq8hAcu9KSN](http://www.hightowerlowdown.org/node/3402#.Uq8hAcu9KSN)

**Just because it is "bi-partisan" does not make it good:** For decades now, presidents and Congresses of **both** big political parties have been pushing for "free trade" schemes that promise jobs and prosperity, but have produced the opposite. For example, Democrat Bill Clinton pushed NAFTA and the expansion of the WTO. George W. Bush negotiated "free trade" deals with South Korea, Panama and Colombia, and in 2009 Barack Obama picked up right where Bush left off and pushed Bush's deals ahead to completion. Obama followed through with Bush's Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). **The U.S.'s "two-party" system and the businesses that fund their campaigns allow both parties to promote virtually identical economic policies at the macro level.**

**Two bad WTO rulings show the TPP's dangers:** Several organizations, including Public Citizen ([www.citizen.org](http://www.citizen.org)), which Ralph Nader had founded decades ago, have publicized some horrible rulings under NAFTA, the World Trade Organization (WTO), and other "free trade" schemes that have hurt workers, consumers and the environment. Two decisions are cited on page 11 of the Jan-Feb 2016 issue of *Public Citizen News* ([www.citizen.org](http://www.citizen.org)):

"One case involved the popular country-of-origin meat labeling (COOL) law for beef and pork. The WTO approved \$1 billion in annual trade sanctions against the U.S. unless the policy was terminated. In response, Congress in December [2015] tucked a provision to kill the popular labels into an omnibus funding package that President Barack Obama quickly signed into law.

"The WTO also issued a final ruling against U.S. dolphin-safe tuna labels, ordering the elimination of the popular environmental policy." [*This occurred because a Mexican tuna fishing company that recklessly netted tuna in ways that also killed dolphins did not want ethical tuna companies to have a competitive advantage over it, so it got the WTO to prohibit the dolphin-safe tuna labels altogether in the interest of "free trade" for that recklessly unethical company.*]

"Both were glaring examples of how trade agreements can undermine U.S. public interest policies...."

[*If the TPP and other "free trade" schemes pass, we will have more of these "race-to-the-bottom" abuses that hurt workers, consumers and the environment.*]

**Korean "free trade" deal has hurt U.S. exports:** "Last year marked the third full year that the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement (FTA) has been in effect. The deal was sold on the same "more exports, more jobs" claims now being used for the Trans-Pacific Partnership deal. Our analysis of government data revealed that the job-displacing U.S. goods trade deficit with Korea nearly doubled. Exports declined 7 percent, and imports soured." (Page 11 of the Jan-Feb 2016 issue of *Public Citizen News* ([www.citizen.org](http://www.citizen.org)))

**We need a new paradigm: people and planet before profits:** Let's show that people everywhere are united against these treaties that drive a race to the bottom in wages and worker's rights, environmental protection and more. We demand a new paradigm that puts people and planet before profits.

SEE MORE INFO ON NEXT PAGE

TPP info CONTINUES HERE FROM PREVIOUS PAGE:

**Olympia FOR's website has info on TPP:** Visit the "Global Economics" section of Olympia FOR's website, [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org), and watch Olympia FOR's TV November 2013 TV program about the TPP ("TPP – A Free Trade Scam Much Worse than NAFTA"). Visit [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org), click the "TV Programs" link, and scroll down to November 2013. Click the link to watch this TV program, and/or read the .pdf or Word version of a thorough summary of what we discussed.

**Many sources of info:** A great many vigorous non-profit organizations offer information and mobilize people to stop the TPP. These include:

- Citizens Trade Campaign [www.citizenstrade.org](http://www.citizenstrade.org)
- Flush the TPP [www.flushthetpp.org](http://www.flushthetpp.org)
- Global Trade Watch [www.globaltradewatch.org](http://www.globaltradewatch.org)
- Public Citizen [www.citizen.org](http://www.citizen.org)
- Washington Fair Trade Coalition  
(206) 227-3079 [www.washingtonfairtrade.org](http://www.washingtonfairtrade.org)

**Let's shed some light on the TPP!** Sometimes messages are projected onto the wall of the Capitol Center Building between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenues SW in downtown Olympia. Thanks to Rod Tharp for the technical work and Ryan Harris for taking this photo:



