

Eurodad International Conference 2017

Co-hosted with Latindadd, ActionAid Netherlands, Both ENDS, OIKOS, Oxfam Novib, SOMO

20-22 June

Where will TTIP strike next: How global trade and investment regimes restrict policy space and create inequality

Objectives:

- To raise awareness about and strategize the less well known EU negotiation of trade and investment agreements and how they limit policy space and create inequality
- To illustrate with case studies from Indonesia and India how trade and investment rules limit these countries' capacity to design and implement key economic policies aiming at economic justice and sustainable development
- To link gender and other specific forms of inequality with trade and investment rules

Background Information:

The discussion about transatlantic trade and investment agreements TPP, TTIP and CETA has led to increased awareness globally about the potential consequences of trade and investment agreements and how they negatively interfere with national policy making.

Currently TPP is in limbo after the US pulled out, the ratification of CETA and the possible future negotiations of TTIP are not ensured. CSOs active on these processes are likely to continue their efforts to influence these processes in 2017. In the EU, similar negotiations are planned and are already taking place that until now barely got any attention.

Purpose of this workshop is it to highlight and discuss these processes that are mainly EU negotiations with developing countries. Besides the concerns that rose in Europe about CETA and TTIP, like access to public services, social and environmental standards or the ability of the state to regulate in the public interest the challenges for developing countries will even be bigger, reaching from concerns related to sufficient policy space for industrial policies, to the issue of debt and tax revenues, and the impact on vulnerable groups such as subsistence farmers, or gender inequality.

Format:

Short presentation by the speakers (2-3) followed by a moderated discussion with the audience (time allocation presentations <-> discussion: 50/50)

Substance of the presentation:

Presentation 1: What are the ongoing and planned EU negotiation process in 2017-2018 and what are key policies demand from the EU in these negotiations (that impact policy space or increase inequality)

Presentation 2: Case study from India or Indonesia about negotiations with EU and critical issues relating to policy space to develop sustainable national economic policies

Presentation 3: How EU trade and investment agreements impact gender inequality

Speakers:

Rachmi Hertanti (Indonesia for Global Justice) Kavaljit Singh (Madhyam) Burghard Ilge (Both ENDS)