



**TRADE JUSTICE  
MOVEMENT**

Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP  
Secretary of State for International Trade  
Department for International Trade  
King Charles Street  
Whitehall  
London  
SW1A2AH

The Honorable Robert Lighthizer  
United States Trade Representative  
600 17th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20508

May 4, 2020

Dear Ms. Truss and Mr. Lighthizer:

Formal negotiations are beginning for a trade agreement between the United States and the United Kingdom. As groups from both the US and the UK, including environmental, animal welfare, health, food, farming, labour, digital, development, faith and social justice organisations, we are concerned about the risks that a deal could pose to the wellbeing of people and planet.

Any trade agreement must be based upon ambitious environmental and social aims, and must:

- Include binding climate requirements, including that the signatories adopt, maintain and implement policies to fulfil the Paris Climate Agreement, that ensure the provisions of the deal contribute to, and do not undermine, domestic policies to tackle the climate crisis, and exclude support for fossil fuels and corporate polluters
- Protect the public and the environment by requiring any imported goods and services and their providers to minimally meet the health, safety, environmental, animal welfare, food standards, production standards, land use and zoning, licensing, professional qualification, privacy, transparency and consumer access policies where the goods or services will be consumed
- Exclude terms that undermine strong, publicly provided public services, including universal access to health services, or price controls for medicines and those that strengthen pharmaceutical monopolies, such as intellectual property rights.
- Include binding labour rights subject to swift and certain enforcement, requiring each country to adopt, maintain, implement and enforce domestic laws that provide the labour rights and protections included in the International Labour Organization's Core Conventions and Protocols

- Include provisions to protect existing labour standards, wages and working conditions, and prevent a global race to the bottom by barring movement of production to evade labour laws and by establishing formal protections for joint activities, including collective bargaining, by workers in both countries with the same employer
- Exclude terms that undermine the right of governments to set farm policy and support their farmers
- Exclude terms that undermine effective financial and corporate regulation, including human rights due diligence throughout supply chains
- Exclude terms that undermine the Sustainable Development Goals and commitments in international law
- Exclude terms that undermine the regulation of digital technology and protect digital rights including privacy
- Exclude any form of Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) and rules that help corporations challenge proposed public interest regulations
- Exclude terms constraining domestic procurement policies with respect to local preferences or labour, environmental, human rights, animal welfare and other requirements on goods, services and bidders
- Include a safeguard excluding non-discriminatory domestic health, labour and other public interest policies from challenge as violating the agreement

Lastly, to ensure that trade talks follow this positive agenda, it is essential that they are carried out transparently with democratic scrutiny, meaning opening texts and draft texts following each negotiating round must be made publicly available and the process includes ongoing opportunities for public consultation, and be subject to democratic consent.

Signed,

### **U.S. Organizations**

1. Citizens Trade Campaign
2. A Well-Fed World
3. All-Creatures.org
4. Americans for Democratic Action (ADA)
5. Association of Western Pulp & Paper Workers
6. Backbone Campaign
7. Campaign for America's Future
8. Citizens Trade Campaign
9. CODEPINK
10. Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach
11. Communications Workers of America (CWA)
12. Communities and Postal Workers United
13. Community Services Unlimited
14. CPATH (Center for Policy Analysis on Trade and Health)
15. Fair World Project
16. Family Farm Defenders
17. Food & Water Action
18. Friends of the Earth U.S.

19. Global Exchange
20. GMO Free USA
21. Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
22. Institute for Policy Studies, Global Economy Project
23. International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers
24. Jobs with Justice
25. Labor Network for Sustainability
26. Living Economies Forum
27. Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns
28. National Family Farm Coalition
29. National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Assn
30. National LGBTQ Task Force
31. NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
32. Northwest Atlantic Marine Alliance
33. Pesticide Action Network North America
34. Popular Resistance
35. Pride at Work
36. Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch
37. Rachel Carson Council
38. Real Food Challenge
39. RootsAction.org
40. Seeding Sovereignty
41. Sierra Club
42. Social Security Works
43. The Oakland Institute
44. United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW)
45. United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries
46. United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers of America (UE)
47. United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers Union (USW)
48. Universities Allied for Essential Medicines

### **U.K. Organisations**

49. Trade Justice Movement
50. CHEM Trust
51. Compassion in World Farming
52. Equality Trust
53. Friends of the Earth
54. Global Justice Now
55. Just Treatment
56. Keep Our NHS Public
57. NASUWT
58. Pesticide Action Network UK
59. RSPB
60. RSPCA
61. Soil Association
62. STOPAIDS
63. SumOfUs

64. Sustain
65. Traidcraft Exchange
66. UNISON
67. Unlock Democracy
68. War on Want
69. We Own It