

**Friends of the Earth
at the
European Social Forum
in London
14-17 October 2004**



**Friends of
the Earth**

www.foe.co.uk
www.foeeurope.org
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Thursday October 14

Corporate Responsibility Coalition (CORE) AGM

Thursday October 14, 09:30 – 16:30, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ

The annual meeting of Corporate Responsibility coalition (CORE), where Friends of the Earth is member. CORE has now been campaigning for stronger legislation of corporate responsibility for nearly three years. Through collective action, the case for corporate responsibility legislation is now one of the most debated subjects, in the media, with governments and amongst the corporate sector. Momentum for the campaign is at a high, and thus it is a timely opportunity to come together and discuss the future direction of the campaign, while reflecting on what has been achieved to date.

Joint meeting with JADES, ENRED, SPEDCA and the World Council of Churches

Thursday October 14, 9.30 – 12.00, 14.00- 17.00, New Economic Foundation, New address: 3, Jonathan street, London SE11, 5NH (near Vauxhall Tube)

The joint meeting preparing the Global Tribunal Ecological Debt, Environmental Justice and Human Rights (dec 2005 – Brussels).

Press launch of “Infernal Combustion”

Thursday October 14, 11:30 – 12:30, Malet Street, Bloomsbury (outside the University of London Union)

Press launch of “Infernal Combustion”. Experience the real impacts of oil. Infernal Combustion recreates the environment endured by communities living next to oil-operations. Gain an insight into the burning heat and perpetual roar of flamed gas which have become an integral part of the lives of villagers in the Niger Delta and other ‘fenceline communities’ across the world.

Friday October 15

Oil Addiction – Energy Politicks, Corporate Power and Global Climate Change

Friday October 15, 9. 00 – 12. 00, Plenary 6.1, Alexandra Palace, venue: West Hall 2

Speakers: Oronto Douglas, Environmental Rights Action, Nigeria; Maurizio Gubbiotti, Legambiente, Italy; Kostas Katopis, campaign Genua 2001, Greece; Patricia McKenna, Environmental campaigner, Ireland; Liana Stupples, Friends of the Earth EWNI;
Facilitators: Daniel Mittler, Greenpeace International; Jo Hamilton, Rising Tide.

GM-Free Europe

Friday October 15, 9. 00 – 12. 00 Seminar E4, Alexandra Palace, Marquee 2

The current state of play regarding GM crops and foods around Europe and the world. Including contributions from European and international grassroots campaigners with time for discussion and debate. There will also be an introduction to three workshops on the GM WTO dispute, GM Free Zones and GM animal feed.

Speakers: Lim Li Ching, The Third World Network; Victor Campos, Nicaragua; Helena Paul, UK; Adrian Bebb, Friends of the Earth; Yiannis Tolios; Babis Moulgelas; Abdullah Aysu; Robert Fidirish, Friends of the Earth Hungary; Jacques Leford, Confederation Paysanne.
Facilitator: Claire Deveraux

Ecological debt: from European overconsumption to local social and ecological conflicts in the impoverished countries.

Friday October 15, 9. 00 – 12. 00 Seminar E18, Alexandra Palace, Marquee 1

The European ecological debt is the debt acquired by the European countries and some European actors (such as Transnational Corporations, export credit agencies) towards impoverished countries. It is produced as a consequence of European over-consumption patterns and the environmental and social liabilities of European activities outside of Europe and European collaboration in the unfair global trade system.

Speakers: Leida Eijnhout, VODO; Vinod Raina, All India Peoples Science Network; Tara O'Leary FRIENDS OF THE EARTH Scotland; Teresa Martinez of FRIENDS OF THE EARTH Scotland; Jaroslave Colajacomo, CRMB;
Facilitator: Miquel Ortega Cerda, ODG

Proposing organisations include FRIENDS OF THE EARTH, FRIENDS OF THE EARTH Scotland, ENRED, Observatori del Deute en la Globalitzacio (Catalunya), A Sud, CRBM, JADES, VODO

The European Economy and the world economy: the WTO and trade justice

Friday October 15, 13.00 – 15.00, Plenary 4.1, Alexandra Palace, Venue: West Hall 1

Speakers: Yash Tandon, Zimbabwe; Guglielmo Epifani, General secretary CGIL, Italy; Fikile Mbalula, president ANC youth; Clare Joy, World Development Movement, UK; Barbara Stocking, Oxfam UK; David Le Bon, ECOSY, Reunion
Facilitators: Alexandra Wandel, Friends of the EarthE; Anthony Parris, TGWU Shop Steward

A Trans-Atlantic GMO Trade War: US attempts to use the WTO against European citizens

Friday October 15, 13.00 – 15.00, Seminar E3, Alexandra Palace, Venue: Great Hall 5

The seminar will provide and update details of the US, Canadian and Argentinean WTO challenge on the EU's precautionary stance on GMOs as an unfair barrier to trade. There will be a chance for questions and discussions.

Speakers: Alexandra Wandel, Friends of the Earth Europe, Germany; Alice Palmer, Foundation for International Law and Development, UK; Peter Rossman, International Union of Food; Meena Raman, Third World Network; Dr Sue Mayer -Chair, Executive Director of GeneWatch, UK.
Organisation: Friends of the Earth Europe (on behalf of the Bite Back); Hands off our Food campaign and The Five Year Freeze campaign (on behalf of the International Public Interest Amicus Coalition).

Countering Corporate Power

Friday October 15, 16.00 – 18.00, Seminar G12, Alexandra Palace, Great Hall 8

The speakers will provide an overview of the different ways in which

transnational corporations abuse their economic and political power at the expense of people, the environment and democratic processes. The main purpose of the seminar is to explore options for pan-European campaigning for corporate accountability and for rolling back corporate political power.

Speakers: Craig Bennett, England; Erik Wesselius, The Netherlands; David Miller, Scotland; Meena Raman, Friends of the Earth, Malaysia

Organisers: Friends of the Earth, England Wales & Northern Ireland; Greenpeace International; Corporate Europe Observatory (CEO); Spinwatch

The New EU Constitution and our Responses

Friday October 15, 16.00 – 18.00, Seminar D6, Alexandra Palace, West Hall 2

Speakers: Bernard Cassen, Attac France; Patrice Cohen-Seat, Espace Marx; Jack Conrad, Weekly Worker; Titti Di Salvo, CGIL; Martin Rocholl, Friends of the Earth Europe; Frank Slegers, Belgian Social Forum; Peter Szigeti, Attac Hungary; Andy Storey, Action for Peace Ireland; Richard Laming, Federal Union; Rehana Azam, GMB
Facilitators: Sergio Giovagnoli, Arci; Tina Becker, CPGB/Weekly Worker

Participating organisations:

Attac France, Espace Marx, Weekly Worker, CGIL, Forum for a European constitutional democracy, Friends of the Earth, Belgian Social Forum, Attac Hungary, Irish anti-war movement, Federal Union, TUC

GM Free Zones

Friday October 15, 16.00 – 18.00, Workshop 748, Bloomsbury, venue: NATFHE, Stephen Lawrence

This Workshop will be organized to discuss and further strengthen local and regional initiatives throughout Europe to declare geographical areas GMO free. The ESF poses an excellent opportunity to exchange experiences, discuss and improve strategies and inspire new people to join the campaign for a GMO free Europe.

Mining, Rivers and Environment

Friday October 15, 16.00 – 18.00, Workshop 1335, Bloomsbury, Congress House 2

The workshop focuses on the environmental and social effects of mining, especially gold mining. We start from the cyanide spill at Baia Mare, Romania in January 2000 killed more than 1200 tonnes of fishes and some further heavy metal spills. The next item of the workshop is the controversial new gold mine project of the Canadian based Gabriel Resources in Rosia Montana, Romania. A 30 minutes video „Burying People for Profit”, will be showed then we can discuss about the project with Stephanie Roth from Alburnus Maior and discuss further strategies how can we stop this project and similar destructive gold mining investments. How can consumers help? Some thoughts about the No Dirty Gold campaign.

Speakers: Stephanie Roth, Alburnus Maior, Romania, Robert Fidrich, Friends of the Earth Hungary

Climate Change - the Threat to Development

Friday October 15, 19.00 – 21.00, Seminar E10, Alexandra Palace, Great Hall 7

Climate change will hit developing countries hardest, with huge implications for human health, and is the biggest threat to sustainable development. Fighting climate change and promoting development in Africa are UK G8 priorities. How can campaigns against climate change and for poverty reduction work together?

Speakers: Andrew Simms, NEF; Mark Lynas, journalist; Saleemul Huq, IEED; Liana Stupples; Cathy Read

A Trans-Atlantic GMO Trade War: US attempts to use the WTO against European citizens

Friday October 15, 19.00 – 21.00, Workshop 842, Bloomsbury, venue: NATFHE, Stephen Lawrence

A strategic meeting as a follow up from the seminar on the same subject, giving people the chance to discuss strategy and action around the WTO case in the future.

Speakers: Contribution from the floor and facilitator Carl Reynolds.

Saturday October 16

The End on the Myths of Development and Growth: towards a sustainable society

Saturday October 16, 9.00 – 11.00, Plenary 6.3, Alexandra Palace, Venue: West Hall 2

Speakers: Samir Amin, anti-globalisation economist and writer, Senegal; Joel Decaillon, European TUC; Martin Rocholl, Friends of the Earth Europe; Ann Pettifor, Jubilee Research
Facilitators: Nicu Bazga, Attac, Romania and Tara O'Leary, Friends of the Earth Scotland

Perverse Subsidies - Money and Oil

Saturday October 16, 9.00 – 11.00, Seminar E13, Bloomsbury, Congress House

Huge oil projects around the globe are promoted in the name of development. But these projects degrade local and global environments, increase corruption, distort economies, and exacerbate conflict. Who's benefiting - local people, or big business?

Speakers: Tony Juniper - Friends of the Earth (Chair); Oronto Douglas – Environmental Rights Action (Nigeria); Paul de Clerck - Milieudefensie (Netherlands); Nick Hildyard - Cornerhouse; Nick Rau - Friends of the Earth

Campaign assembly: Taking action against Europe's corporate led trade agenda

Saturday October 16, 9.00 – 11.00, Workshop 1407, Bloomsbury, venue: Brikbeck 34

The WTO Doha round is back on track: governments have agreed a dangerous framework agreement in July 2004 that advances the corporate-driven agenda of the European Union and other European governments for continued global trade and investment liberalisation. This campaigning assembly offers a unique opportunity for European civil society groups to share information about pan-European trade campaigning, national campaigns, creative actions and good outreach, future joint action possibilities and outreach to CEE groups.

Politics on your plate - European agriculture, its global impact and future

Saturday October 16, 11.30 – 13.30, Plenary 6.2, Alexandra Palace, venue: Great Hall 4

Speakers: Jennifer Mourin, Asian Peoples' Caravan for Food Sovereignty, Malaysia, Adrian Bebb, Friends of the Earth Europe; Xavier Declercq, Oxfam International; Lidia Senra, SLG/Galicia; Jenny Jones, Greens

Facilitators: Giorgos Emmanouil, Co-Ordinator Greek Network Against GMO and James Lloyd, National Union of Students, UK

Defending the UN Human Rights Norms for Business

Saturday October 16, 11.30 – 13.30, Workshop 1071, Bloomsbury, venue: SOAS G2

The International Chamber of Commerce is fighting hard to destroy the UN Human Rights Norms for Business before they have even been adopted by the UN Commission on Human Rights. How can we prevent them from succeeding? How can we win the support of (key) governments before the next session of the UN Human Rights Commission in 2005? Meet key activists to develop a common strategy.

Amnesty International, Greenpeace International, and Friends of the Earth International

From Cancun to Hongkong: Challenging the role of Europe in corporate led trade deals

Saturday October 16, 14.00 – 16.00, Seminar G9, Alexandra Palace, Great Hall 7

Following the collapse of the WTO Ministerial Conference in Cancun and EU accession, the EU continues to pursue a dangerous corporate led trade agenda that will have detrimental impacts for people and the environment around the world. Under the leadership of the European Commission, the EU not only pushes for trade liberalisation in the WTO, but increasingly also advances a neo-liberal globalisation agenda at regional and bilateral level.

This seminar will highlight Europe's current position in trade deals and propose future civil society strategies. Speakers will expose the negative role the EU and corporate lobby groups play in trade deals and underline current dangers of the current EU trade agenda. They will also address the need to target and change the mandate of the next EU Trade Commissioner and put forward proposals for pan European joint campaigning on the WTO and on bilateral trade deals.

Speakers will be from the Seattle to Brussels Network as well as from the global Our World is Not For Sale Network (see <http://www.s2bnetwork.org> and www.ourworldisnotforsale.org)

Speakers: Martin Khor, Director, Third World Network, Malaysia; Susan George, Attac France and Transnational Institute; Zsolt Boda, Protect the Future, Hungary; Alexandra Strickner, IATP, Geneva

Democratising the Economy: how can social movements and social enterprises work together?

Saturday October 16, 14.00 – 16.00, Seminar S30, Alexandra Palace, Great Hall 10

The Social and Solidarity Economy (ESS) was a central topic of the last world and European social forums. However this other form of entrepreneurship and economy is not sufficiently considered by social movements as a way to build an alternative model project to neoliberal globalisation. Beyond sharing practical experiences, what strategic dialogues and alliances can contribute to building a common campaign for democratising the economy and for respecting democratic principles in the economic sphere?

Speakers: Alberto Zorati (It); Christophe Aguitton (Fr); Madeleine Hersent (Fr); Jean-Michel Joubier (Fr); Eve Durquety (Fr); Speaker from CECOP (UK or other); Eve Mitchell (uk); Facilitator: Laurent Fraise (Fr)

Organisars: Union des societe coopeatives ouvriees de production d'Ile-de-France (URSCOP IdF) – France; Mouvement pour l'economie solidaire (MES)- France

Friends of the Earth – Germany; Roba dell' altromondo – Italia; Confederation General du Travail (CGT)- France; CECOP (UK or other)

Towards a European Coalition for Corporate Responsibility

Saturday October 16, 14.00 – 16.00, Workshop 1364, Bloomsbury, ULU Upper Hall

Different initiatives are established on the national level, with the objective of pressurizing the government to step ahead with legislation requiring companies address their social and environmental impacts. Best-known are the examples of the Corporate Responsibility Coalition (CORE) in the UK and Scotland, but initiatives are taking place as well in Spain, Netherlands, Sweden and France. The workshop will allow the exchange from these experiences and build towards the establishment of a similar European approach.

Environmental Crises and European Responsibility

Saturday October 16, 16.30 – 18.30, Plenary 6.4, Alexandra Palace, venue: West Hall 2

Speakers: Brigitte Allain, Confédération Paysanne; Magda Stoczkiewicz, CEE Bankwatch; Mehmet Soganci, Network Chamber of Engineers and Architects, Turkey; Athena Ronquilo, Greenpeace International; George Monbiot, writer and campaigner, UK.

Facilitators: Dr Liudmila Bulavga, Alternatives, Russia; Helen Lynn, Women's Environment Network.

Fair Shares in Decent Environment

Saturday October 16, 16.30 – 18.30, Workshop 1292, Bloomsbury, ULU 2c

Speakers: Tara O'Leary Friends of the Earth Scotland; Serge Marti, Rights and Justice, Friends of the Earth England Wales and Northern Ireland; Teresa Martinez Friends of the Earth Scotland; Martha Wardrop: Jam74 campaign

NGO's, trade unions, social and solidarity economy for sustainable European development

Saturday October 16, 19.00 – 21.00, Seminar E15, Alexandra Palace, Marquee 2

Speakers: Bernard Saincy, CGT; Joël Decaillon, ETUC; Martin Rocholl, Friends of the Earth Europe; Eric La Villunière, CECOP; Isabelle Plouchard, Artisans du Monde/News; Guillaume Duval, Chair - Alternatives économiques, Journaliste

Building a European agenda against corporate power and for citizens' rights

Saturday October 16, 19.00 – 21.00, Seminar G13, Alexandra Palace, Great Hall 8

A campaigning assembly to be held towards the end of the ESF to bring together everyone campaigning against corporate power and to hold MNCs accountable. The aim is to feed back from other relevant sessions to share experiences and build a common agenda for mobilising in the coming years.

Speakers: Most of the meeting will consist of contribution from the floor.

Facilitators: Tony Juniper, Director, Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland and Daniel Mittler, Greenpeace International.

Sunday October 17

Demonstration! For Another Europe in Another World

Saturday October 17, 13.00, Gordon Square – Friends of the Earth and others meeting here

The demonstration is assembling at on Sunday 17th October at 1pm in Russell Square. The demo route will go through Westminster and finish with a concert and rally in Trafalgar Square starting at 3.30pm. There will be a place for you to leave your luggage in the Russell Square area at the start of the demonstration.