What’s at stake: The TPP is a disastrous trade agreement designed to protect the interests of the largest multi-national corporations at the expense of workers, consumers, the environment and the foundations of American democracy. It will also negatively impact some of the poorest people in the world. Senator Bernie Sanders.

Each of these newsletters is a small anthology intended to provide knowledge for personal communication and letters and columns to the editor. All together they constitute a large collection of writings on the subject from the point of view of world peace, nonviolence, social and economic justice, human rights, participatory democracy, affirmative government, stewardship of the planet and all species.

Here is the link to all OMNI newsletters:
http://www.omnicenter.org/newsletter-archive/  For a knowledge-based peace, justice, and ecology movement and an informed citizenry as the foundation for opposition to empire, militarism, and wars. Write Letter or Column

Here is the link to the Index: http://www.omnicenter.org/omni-newsletter-general-index/
See: Continental US Westward Expansion, Genocide, Indigenous People of Americas,
SENATOR BERNIE SANDERS

The fight over the Trans-Pacific Partnership is about to heat up very quickly.

As soon as Monday, legislation will be introduced in the Senate that would give the president "Fast Track" authority to pass the trade deal many are calling "NAFTA on steroids" -- setting up a situation later this year in which Congress would be pressured
to pass the TPP without amendments.

The TPP is a disastrous trade agreement designed to protect the interests of the largest multinational corporations at the expense of workers, consumers, the environment and the foundations of American democracy. It will also negatively impact some of the poorest people in the world.

Now is the perfect time for us to put our heads together and talk about what we need to do to defeat the TPP once and for all. That’s why I’m returning to join a DFA Live conference call this Wednesday, April 15, at 8pm ET/ 5pm PT to chat with DFA members about the TPP, Fast Track, and other issues on the minds of DFA members.

Would you like to chat with me about the TPP and other important progressive issues? Then click here to RSVP for my DFA Live call this Wednesday, April 15, at 8pm ET.

The media has done a horrible job of covering the TPP -- one of the most important issues facing our country and the world in the coming months. That’s why I think it’s vitally important that we have a conversation about the TPP now. The only way we are going to stop this disastrous deal from passing is if we work together to educate our friends and neighbors about it as soon as possible.

In January, more than 3,200 Democracy for America members signed up for a lively, in-depth DFA Live discussion focused on Citizens United. I thoroughly enjoyed it -- especially the insightful questions and thoughts shared by DFA members. I can't wait to do it again, to hear your ideas, and to answer your questions.

The Trans Pacific "Trade" Partnership Trojan Horse Corporate Global Coup

Greetings to you all. I just wanted to remind everyone that no matter how hard or how much effort you are putting into all your work in no matter what area-- be it climate change, stopping fracking, coal ash, clean air, local food, no GMOs— that the TPP usurps all efforts if it is passed. The TPP is the ONE PERCENTER’s POWER TOOL. All of the trade agreements have had a detrimental effect on our economy and loss of jobs in America. However, this “trade” agreement
has 29 chapters but only FIVE chapters are related to trade. The rest of the chapters is devoted to the undermining of our government, our protectionist laws, and the removal of our human rights in order that corporations be allowed to have more rights over us.

It is very important that you become involved and take action. Please call & write your senators and representatives! Call Senator Wyden’s office and tell him to stop FAST Track. Call the Whitehouse and tell them that Fast Track undermines our democracy. Tell them that the Trans Pacific Partnership undermines Local Food, Healthcare, Generic Drugs, Food Labeling, our jobs, our economy and our environment. If the TPP passes then we will not be able to stabilize our ecosystems on planet Earth because the corporate power structure will prevent from making the political changes to make the planet sustainable. Please do this as soon as possible and keep the pressure on until the senate and then the house votes. Thank you.–Sue

Trans Pacific “Trade” Partnership  Trojan Horse Corporate Global Coup

As you know, the Trans Pacific (trade) Partnership is being pushed for Fast Track. We must not let that happen. We must have negotiation because historically, all the previous trade deals have been very detrimental to us. They have outsourced our jobs so we have more inequality and less jobs. This has hurt our economy nationwide. The TPP also undermines our LAWS, MEDICAL CARE – PHARMACEUTICALS, & ENVIRONMENT.

Provisions in the TPP specifically threaten to:

- **Undermine food safety protections** by making it harder for countries to adopt regulations such as labeling laws or banning GMOs.
- **Dismantle the “Buy Local” movement** by overturning government laws designed to keep taxpayer dollars in the local economy.
- **Inhibit access to lifesaving medicine** by extending monopoly drug patents for big pharmaceuticals.
- **Curtail Internet freedom, spur further financial deregulation, roll back environmental laws and more.** The curtailment of Internet Freedom would prevent us from doing our work. This could silence us. Silence is compliance.

*** Last week’s conference call was equally important bringing to light another issue about the TPP. Specifically, there are only 5 chapters devoted to trade. The rest of the bill undermines our own protective laws. **DO YOU WANT TO DO " 7 YEARS" ? FAST TRACK IS NOT JUST FOR THE TPP. IT IS ALSO FOR TESA & TTIP.** There is a chapter in the TPP solely
devoted to changing our bureaucratic structure. It is the Regulatory Coherence Chapter & it is a NEW STAGE in the formation of GLOBAL GOVERNANCE (CONTROL). STOP THE TPP NOW! It undermines our laws in favor of Global Corporate Tribunals.

This would be devastating to us all. Therefore we must unite and work together to overcome the TPP. TPP=Toilet Paper Partnership=Pure Evil

Short Films will be shown to educate on the TPP.

We will discuss and organize for ACTION:

1. Visibility:
2. Lobbying:
3. TPP Free Zones:
4. Teach Ins: Using films, speakers, fact sheets present information on the Fast Track and TPP and other so called trade bills & garner supporters against Fast Track & the TPP.

Sign up here for the conference calls: http://www.flushthetpp.org/national-fast-track-resistance-weekly-calls/ Conference calls are on Wednesday Evenings at 8PM Central time.

There are TOOLS on Popular Resistance, Flush the TPP, Expose the TPP, Alliance for Democracy & Public Citizen to use for organizing purposes.

Here are some additional links for more information:

2. Robert Reich on the TPP https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3O_Sbbeqfdw
3. Inequality Record of Trade Agreements History short video http://www.sanders.senate.gov/.../video-aud.../not-another-nafta
5. STOP THE FAST TRACK TO A FUTURE OF GLOBAL CORPORATE RULE: http://greenshadowcabinet.us/statements/stop-fast-track-future-global-corporate-rule

Action schedule: https://www.popularresistance.org/stop-fast-track/

PEOPLE DEMANDING ACTION & STOP FAST TRACK COALITION

JOIN THE CALL SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2015 – 7:30 p.m. Eastern Registration link: https://www.anymeeting.com/AccountManager/ReqEv.aspx?PIID=EB57DD88854F3A
"TPP: A Global Distraction" – With Robert Kuttner co-founder of The American Prospect and The Economic Policy Institute, for a thought-provoking discussion of "what lies beneath" U.S. trade negotiations. We'll explore the question: Are trade deals necessary structures, or a convenient smoke-screen for pushing austerity economics? Mr. Kuttner is a nationally-known columnist (the) Boston Globe, Washington Post, Village Voice, New Republic and BusinessWeek, and an award-winning author, economist and former presidential adviser.

BREAKING: Shane Larson, Legislative Director, Communications Workers of America, will share an analysis of the LEAKED TPP INVESTMENT CHAPTER TEXT Register today, space is limited!

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video Robert Reich takes on the Trans-Pacific Partnership

TPP: Trans-Pacific Partners

Three Senators—Warren, Baldwin, and Markey-- Criticize Key Parts of the Trade Deal by Zack Carter

Elizabeth Warren: Obama Trade Deal Could Undermine Wall Street Reform

WASHINGTON -- Sen. Elizabeth Warren on Wednesday warned that a major trade deal being negotiated by the Obama administration could hamstring Wall Street reform efforts.

Warren raised the issue in a letter to U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman, which was also signed by Sens. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.) and Ed Markey (D-Mass.). The correspondence highlighted a broadening rift between President Barack Obama and the progressive wing of the Democratic Party over economic policy, less than a week after Warren and Obama squared off over a budget deal that provided government subsidies for risky derivatives trading.

"We are concerned that the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) could make it harder for Congress and regulatory agencies to prevent future financial crises," the letter reads. "With millions of families still struggling to recover from the last financial crisis and the Great Recession that followed, we cannot afford a trade deal that undermines the government’s ability to
The Obama administration has been negotiating the TPP -- a pact with 11 other Pacific nations -- for several years. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has strongly favored the pact, while many traditionally liberal organizations have been critical of the deal, citing concerns that it will exacerbate income inequality and undermine a host of public-interest regulations. The government has been negotiating the deal in secret. The public has only learned of potential provisions through leaked drafts of the negotiation text.

Warren, Baldwin and Markey are particularly concerned with a process called "investor-state dispute settlement," which grants foreign corporations the political power to challenge the laws and regulations of a government before an international tribunal. This nongovernmental court has the power to levy trade sanctions against offending nations. The investor-state dispute settlement regimen differs from those used in World Trade Organization treaties, which allow only sovereign governments to bring trade challenges.

"We believe that the TPP should not include an investor-state dispute settlement process," the letter reads, warning that doing so "would expose a broad array of critical American financial regulations to challenge by many additional foreign companies."

Investor-state challenges were rare before the new millennium, but have become increasingly popular tools for corporations to use when challenging regulations they object to. Under the North American Free Trade Agreement, for instance, companies including Exxon Mobil, Dow Chemical and Eli Lilly have attempted to overrule Canadian regulations on offshore oil drilling, fracking, pesticides, drug patents and other issues.

Unrest over investor-state powers is not exclusively a progressive phenomenon. Free-trade advocate Daniel J. Ikenson of the Cato Institute has argued against the practice, on the grounds that it gives foreign firms an unfair advantage over domestic companies.

Warren, Baldwin and Markey also objected to granting the banking industry "market access" protections similar to those afforded to other industries under WTO agreements. International tribunals, the trio warned, could determine that domestic rules against risky derivatives and other financial products unfairly restrict foreign firms' access to U.S. markets. The Democrats also urged Froman to avoid curtailing the use of capital controls, rules that can constrain the flow of particular currencies to and from a country -- a move often used by nations to fight financial crises.

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative told HuffPost that the deal will not undermine bank regulations. "TPP will in no way limit the ability of governments to put in place strong consumer protections or to regulate financial markets, including derivatives," a USTR spokesperson said.

Incoming Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) has said approving the TPP will be one of his top priorities when Republicans take control of the Senate in 2015.

Financial issues are particularly sensitive for Froman, who left Citigroup in 2009 to join the
Obama administration, eventually taking the helm at USTR in 2013. The bank gave Froman over $4 million in exit payments to take the government job. Warren voted against Froman's confirmation.

Read the full letter here.

STOP TPP FAST TRACK

A Fast Track to Disaster
Sierra Club, Insider, 3-10-15
The planet's biggest polluters want Congress to vote for fast track approval of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), a massive trade deal that has huge implications for both jobs and the environment. Among other things, the TPP could sabotage the ability of the U.S. to respond to the climate crisis. Fortunately, it's not too late to say "not so fast."

Read Sierra Club executive director Michael Brune's blog on why fast track is such a bad idea and what we can do to stop it.

Tell Congress: No more unfair trade deals. Vote 'no' on fast track.

Progressive Secretary actionreply@progressivesecretary.org via uark.edu
to James

Dear Dick,

Here is a new Progressive Secretary letter.

This letter supports a campaign by Public Citizen and others asking Congress NOT to give the President fast track trade negotiating authority.

President Obama is requesting this authority although he opposed it when he ran
for office. Now, however, he may not be able to obtain approval for his TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) and Trans-Atlantic Free Trade Agreement (TAFTA) deals without it because both agreements are extremely unpopular.

Your letters will be sent to House and Senate members.

Do not give the President “fast track” negotiating authority for trade agreements. “Fast track” already gave us NAFTA, the North American Free Trade Agreement. As a result, the U.S. lost 1,000,000 jobs, saw its manufacturing sector decline, and experienced a significant drop in wages. If current trade agreement trends continue, the U.S. could send 40 million more jobs offshore over the next two decades.

“Fast track” has expired. If you reauthorize it, the executive branch will be able to negotiate additional trade deals without Congressional input. Congress will have no power to amend them. Debate will be limited, and the Senate will not be able to use the filibuster.

The President cannot obtain “fast track” negotiating authority without a vote from Congress. Do not give him that power.

Click here to send this letter or to learn more (you can edit the subject or the letter itself in the next step, if you wish).
Dear Colleague:

The U.S. Congress is moving toward a vote on whether to grant the Obama administration “Fast Track” authority to limit debate on important international trade agreements. It is expected that Fast Track will soon be introduced into the U.S. Senate. Fast Track establishes a process by which international trade deals, such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), can be submitted to Congress and receive an expedited vote – allowing no amendments and limited debate. Fast Track undermines American democracy by limiting the public scrutiny over trade deals.

Previous trade agreements, negotiated in secret, have eliminated tens of thousands of jobs in the United States and suppressed wages. The North American Free Trade Act (NAFTA), for example, contributed to the U.S. global trade deficit of $505 billion in 2014 and has cost the U.S. more than 700,000 jobs. It has left communities devastated because of closed factories and lost economic opportunities.

This time around, Fast Track would be used to pass agreements such as the TPP, which would enable foreign firms to challenge U.S. laws by filing cases in front of an international panel of arbitrators – composed of corporate lawyers. A coalition of labor, community and environmental organizations are opposing Fast Track authority. We are making some headway in communicating to the American public the destructive nature of Fast Track and trade deals that give enormous power to multinational corporations to bypass American laws. We need your help.

**Could you write an opinion piece or op ed column for a local newspaper or other publication explaining the problems with Fast Track and opposing its passage?**

John Logan of San Francisco State University has written such a piece. Former Harvard professor and U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren published a column in the Washington Post articulating the anti-democratic character of the TPP. Our AFL-CIO website includes background material, such as a No Fast Track Digital Tool Kit. Links to the material are below.

The Trans-Pacific Partnership Clause Everyone Should Oppose, by U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren. 
http://wapo.st/1DcOfqo

AFL-CIO digital toolkit with fact sheets, fliers, images and links to academic studies (to come)  
https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B1QJZRcEMsyeemVKMExqeGpsbms&usp=sharing

Additional background material is available by writing to me at dmarscha@aflcio.org.

Best,  
Dan Marschall  
AFL-CIO Policy Department  
and George Washington University

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Joseph Stiglitz on the Trans Pacific Partnership: "This Is A Big Deal"

*In These Times* (March 214, 2015). The mainstream media still refuses to cover what would be the largest trade deal ever, or "NAFTA on steroids."

**BY ALEXANDROS ORPHANIDES**

URGENT REQUEST CONCERNING THE ROLL BACK OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS & CURTAILMENT OF INTERNET FREEDOM

Sue Skidmore 3-17-15

to me, Carl

Dick & Carl: I have to get the word out about the TPP. This would undermine everything that we are doing, please see below. I am sure you must know. Here is the last Conference Call: [http://www.flushthetpp.org/national-fast-track-resistance-weekly-calls/](http://www.flushthetpp.org/national-fast-track-resistance-weekly-calls/) & the link for the Conference Call last week with Ralph Nader on the TPP is: [https://www.mixcloud.com/Popular_Resistance/national-fast-track-resistance-call-1-with-ralph-nader/](https://www.mixcloud.com/Popular_Resistance/national-fast-track-resistance-call-1-with-ralph-nader/). Here is the link for the great article by Margaret Flowers & Kevin Zeese: [http://greenshadowcabinet.us/statements/stop-fast-track-future-global-corporate-rule](http://greenshadowcabinet.us/statements/stop-fast-track-future-global-corporate-rule) STOP THE FAST TRACK TO A FUTURE OF GLOBAL CORPORATE RULE. In that article is a link at “GET INVOLVED HERE” which lists specific lobbying actions and dates and also conference registration. Please get your
friends involved!

Thanks, Sue in Missouri

As you know, the Trans Pacific (trade) Partnership is being pushed for Fast Track. We must not let that happen. We must have negotiation because historically, all the previous trade deals have been very detrimental to us. They have outsourced our jobs so we have more inequality and less jobs. This has hurt our economy nationwide. The TPP also undermines our LAWS, MEDICAL CARE – PHARMACEUTICALS, & ENVIRONMENT.

Provisions in the TPP specifically threaten to:

- Undermine food safety protections by making it harder for countries to adopt regulations such as labeling laws or banning GMOs.
- Dismantle the “Buy Local” movement by overturning government laws designed to keep taxpayer dollars in the local economy.
- Inhibit access to lifesaving medicine by extending monopoly drug patents for big pharmaceuticals.
- Curtail Internet freedom, spur further financial deregulation, roll back environmental laws and more.

This would be devastating to us all. Therefore we must unite and work together to overcome the TPP.

In conference calls held beginning last Wednesday, discussion included

1. Visibility: Protests, Signs, Letters in Papers etc. When writing the representatives, CC the letter to “Interested Parties”.
2. Lobbying: Groups of 4 or 5 at a time going to reps offices and making their views known. Ask questions that the reps must respond to about the TPP. Before leaving ask if the representative has read the TPP in entirety.
3. TPP Free Zones

Sign up here for the conference calls: http://www.flushthetpp.org/national-fast-track-resistance-weekly-calls/ Conference calls are on Wednesday Evenings at 8PM Central time.

The curtailment of Internet Freedom would prevent us from doing our work. This could silence us. Silence is compliance.

Here are some additional links for more information:

2. Robert Reich on the TPP https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Q_Sbbeqfdw
Additionally, we must maintain the newly approved FCC rules for Net Neutrality. Comcast is lobbying Congress to weaken the Net Neutrality rules that we just won. Fight for the Future & Free Press.net is overseeing this: https://www.fightforthefuture.org/ & http://www.freepress.net/what-can-i-do

Working for Positive Change- Looking forward to your reply,

Sue Skidmore

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video Robert Reich takes on the Trans-Pacific Partnership

1. Trans Pacific Partnership: Obama ready to defy Democrats ...
   www.theguardian.com › ... › State of the Union address
   The Guardian
   Jan 20, 2015 - The Trans Pacific Partnership has drawn the ire of Democrats including Elizabeth Warren who object it ... Tuesday 20 January 2015 23.38 EST.

2. The Trans-Pacific Partnership clause everyone should oppose
   www.washingtonpost.com/.../trans-pacific-partnership/...
   The Washington Post
   Feb 25, 2015 - The Trans-Pacific Partnership clause everyone should oppose. Share on ... Partnership (TPP) on Capitol Hill in Washington January 27, 2015.

3. Trans Pacific Partnership - Huffington Post
   www.huffingtonpost.com/.../trans-pacific-partnershi...
   The Huffington Post
   HuffingtonPost.com | Zach Carter | Posted 04.07.2015 | Politics ... A key section of the secret Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade agreement has been leaked ...

4. Trade's big breakout - Adam Behsudi - POLITICO
   www.politico.com/story/2015/.../trade-outlook-2015-113793.ht...
   Politico
   Jan 2, 2015 - The new Republican majority in Congress could turn 2015 into the ... TheTrans-
Pacific Partnership agreement, which would cover about 40 ... 

5.  **Trans-Pacific Partnership | The Diplomat**

thediplomat.com/tag/trans-pacific-partnership/

The Diplomat

**TPP as Important as Another Aircraft Carrier: US Defense Secretary. April 08** ... 5 Ways the US Can Boost its Rebalance to Southeast Asia in 2015. January 06 ... 

6.  **Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Free Trade Negotiations**

www.international.gc.ca/TPP

Canada

Trans-Pacific Partnership Free-Trade Agreement Negotiations. ... TPP Officials' Meeting: New York City (January 26-February 1, 2015); more.

In the news

7.  **Trans-Pacific Partnership Says if a Corporation Claims it's True, it Must be True**

CounterPunch - 3 days ago

Corporations are elevated to the same status as national governments under "free trade" agreements, but if the Trans-Pacific Partnership is ... 

8.  **Letter: Take Trans-Pacific Partnership off fast track**

The Salt Lake Tribune - 15 hours ago

9.  **Asia-Pacific: Groundbreaking Trans-Pacific Partnership talks stall**

Vancouver Sun - 9 hours ago

More news for Trans-Pacific Partnership 2015

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Recent OMNI Newsletters Related to US Imperialism

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Tran and Reid, Vietnam

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TPP, Contact Your Legislators
Working Families, Sign the Petition
Progressive Secretary

China
J, William Fulbright on China and Vietnam
Donald Gross, The China Fallacy, US/China Cooperation Possible
Dick, Associated Press Reports Meeting of Allies vs. China

Global Empire, East Meets West
Nick Turse on Chad

END US WESTWARD IMPERIALISM, TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER #16

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Dick Bennett
Newsletters
http://www.omnicenter.org/newsletter-archive/

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