

Information release – A new campaign to protect EU chemical laws



Brussels, 25 April 2016 – The Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL) and the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL) are today launching a campaign call via a new website (tradinghealthforprofit.wordpress.com) and Twitter account ([@TTIPingToxics](https://twitter.com/TTIPingToxics)). The campaign aims to ensure that the EU-US trade talks do not undermine EU chemicals legislation.

The United States and European Union are negotiating a new trade agreement called the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). This agreement is a threat to the EU's ability to protect people from toxic chemical exposure.

EU legislation is currently much more protective than US regulations. If chemicals are included in this trade deal, the EU could see its global leadership in protecting public health through tough laws like REACH watered down. In addition to pesticide legislation, TTIP could halt the EU's progress on a policy to limit exposure to hormone disrupting chemicals.

What we want

The European Parliament has said that toxic chemicals should have no place in the TTIP negotiations. We agree and are calling for:

1. Chemicals to be excluded from regulatory cooperation because it would provide new channels for private profit to hold power in the drafting or revision of EU laws.
2. No elements of the controversial EU policy "*Better Regulation*" embedded in a legally binding trade agreement.
3. No provisions enabling multinationals to sideline the EU courts and sue European states, the so-called Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) or Investment Court System.

What we're already doing

Today, at the start of the 13th TTIP round, HEAL, CIEL, the European Environmental Bureau and ClientEarth wrote to EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström to ask her to ensure that no elements of the increasingly controversial EU 'Better Regulation' agenda are codified in this legally-binding trade agreement. For a copy of the letter, please see this link: <https://tradinghealthforprofit.files.wordpress.com/2016/03/call-to-exclude-the-e28098good-regulatory-practices-chapter-from-ttip.pdf>

We need YOU!

We hope to bring together not-for-profit organisations to support our campaign, in particular those working in the areas of:

- Public health
- The environment
- Trade
- Toxic chemicals and pesticides
- Cancer
- Biodiversity (including those NGOs protecting bee populations)
- Women's and children's rights
- Not-for-profit health insurance organisations.

Should you wish to endorse the campaign and/or receive updates and relevant material, please contact Aleksandra Terzieva at aterzieva@ciel.org or +32 471 931 708.

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The Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL) — HEAL is a leading European not-for-profit organization addressing how the environment affects health in the European Union. With the support of more than 70 member organizations, HEAL brings independent expertise and evidence from the health community to different decision-making processes. Our broad alliance represents health professionals, not-for-profit health insurers, doctors, nurses, cancer and asthma groups, citizens, women's groups, youth groups, environmental NGOs, scientists and public health research institutes. Members

include international and Europe-wide organisations as well as national and local groups. Website: www.env-health.org

Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL) — Founded in 1989, CIEL uses the power of law to protect the environment, promote human rights, and ensure a just and sustainable society. CIEL is dedicated to advocacy in the global public interest through legal counsel, policy research, analysis, education, training, and capacity building. Website: www.ciel.org