

TradeJustice Alliance

Update – 8/7/16 Edition

TradeJustice Alliance
Sunday Webinar

DOUBLE FEATURE

Sunday, August 7th
7:30 PM EDT / 4:30 PM PDT
Register at tradejustice.net/callreg



UPCOMING EVENTS

[Monday, August 8 & Tuesday, August 9th: Planning Calls : Learn How to Host a “No TPP” House Party \(choose one call based on your availability\)](#)

[Wednesday, August 17th: National TPP Resistance Call](#)

[Wednesday, August 31th: National TPP Resistance Call](#)

[Friday, August 19th: Rock Against the TPP in Seattle, WA](#)

[Friday, August 19th: Protest TPP and Palm Oil on International Orangutan Day!](#)

[Saturday, August 20th: Rock Against the TPP in Portland, OR](#)

[Friday, September 9th: Rock Against the TPP in San Francisco, CA](#)

[Sunday, September 16th: Webinar: Trump/TPP, Brexit/TTIP, Rise of the Anti-Globalist Right: A Left Response](#)

TPP News

1) The Productivity Commission, a key economic policy adviser to the Australian federal government, released

a report today finding that the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) “contains provisions of ‘questionable benefit... These include terms of copyright and the investor state dispute settlement elements [ISDS].”

[Trans-Pacific Partnership provisions 'questionable', says Productivity Commission \(The Guardian, 7/25/16\)](#)

2) Dem Leadership Stakes Out Stronger Positions vs. TPP

[Nancy Pelosi Declares Opposition To Obama’s TPP Trade Deal \(Huffington Post, 7/16/16\)](#)

[Harry Reid Opposes Ramming TPP Through In Lamé-Duck Session \(Huffington Post, 7/28/16\)](#)

3) “In the jockeying on Monday and Tuesday over Sanders support for party unity, TPP opponents made two explicit requests to the Clinton campaign.

“First, the campaign was asked, at the highest level, to contact President Obama and request him to back off his pressure on Congress to approve TPP during the lame duck session of Congress. According to senior sources in the Sanders campaign, the call was made and Obama’s response was: no way.”

“Second, Sanders and his top people explicitly requested Clinton to personally work the phones and tell Democrats in the House and Senate not to vote for TPP in the lame duck session, so that she could keep her word to Sanders and demonstrate resolution against bad trade deals as part of her campaign against Trump. Clinton, say my sources, was non-committal.”

[The Very Tricky Case of Trade \(American Prospect, 7/27/16\)](#)

4) A research article published July 22, 2016, [‘Who wrote the rules for the Trans-Pacific Partnership?.’ \(Research and Politics, July-September 2016\)](#) looks at the language in 74 previous “trade” agreements signed by TPP member countries since 1995.” A fair assumption to be drawn from their findings is that US based multinational corporations had the largest hand in drafting the TPP.

[More info from Stop TPP, TTIP, TISA \(7/30/16\)](#)

Substantiating links of corporate involvement:

[Interactive: How companies wield off-the-record influence on Obama’s trade policy \(Washington Post, 2/28/14\)](#)

[Free Trade Disagreement \(The New York Times, 2/4/14\)](#)

(Trade Advisory Committees discussed midway through the article):

5) Big business, Obama, USTR, Ryan

A) Big business has been frustrated with the lash back against the TPP at both the RNC & the DNC. Groups like

the US Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers and the Business Roundtable, are gearing up their pro-TPP campaigns including ramping up social media efforts.

[Trade backlash frustrates business \(The Hill, 7/31/16\)](#)

[Additional Info from Stop TPP, TTIP, TISA \(8/3/16\)](#)

B) President Obama had a press conference with Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong predicting the TPP would pass in the lame duck session.

[Obama predicts TPP trade deal will be ratified after election \(McClatchy, 8/2/16\)](#)

C) USTR estimates it will take 10 days to pass the TPP in the lame duck session.

[USTR OFFICIAL: TPP IMPLEMENTING BILL WILL BE SHORT, COULD TAKE 10 DAYS TO PASS IN LAME-DUCK \(Coalition for a Prosperous America, 8/3/16\)](#)

D) "US House Speaker Paul Ryan says he sees no point in bringing up the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal for a vote in any 'lame duck' session of Congress after November elections, because 'we don't have the votes.'"

[No point in lame duck vote on TPP: US Speaker \(Otago Daily News, 8/5/16\)](#)

6) President Obama's Argument For TPP, VIDEO:

[In Pushing TPP, President Obama Says He Has 'Better Argument' Than Trump or Clinton \(ABC News, 8/2/16\)](#)

[Refuting President Obama's TPP Argument \(Stop TPP, TTIP, TISA 8/4/16\)](#)

7) "At least nine House Republicans who voted for fast track have announced that they oppose the TPP and would vote against the trade pact should it come up for a vote, including in a lame duck session after November's elections. In contrast, zero Members of Congress who voted against fast track have announced support for TPP."

[Why TPP Vote Count Doesn't Add Up: AT LEAST 9 PRO-FAST TRACK GOP VOTERS ARE NOW "NO" ON TPP VS. ZERO FLIPPING THE OTHER WAY \(Communication Workers of America, 8/3/16\)](#)

8) Movement for Black Lives has a policy statement against the TPP. The Movement for Black Lives reflects the viewpoint of various black liberation organizations, groups and networks including the Black Lives Matter network.

[A Vision for Black Lives: Policy Demands for Black Power, Freedom, and Justice: An end to the TransPacific Partnership and a renegotiation of all trade agreements to prioritize the interests of workers](#)

KXL Case Draws Criticism of TPP

As discussed in our last newsletter, TransCanada, who had previously filed an "intent to sue" has moved

forward and filed it's challenge against the US government for President Obama's veto of the Keystone XL pipeline. TransCanada is suing under NAFTA's chapter 11 provision and is asking for \$15 billion in damages.

Jeffrey Sachs, director of Columbia's Earth Institute and two colleagues have now authored an op-ed arguing why the KXL suit makes a strong case against TPP:

[Op-ed: TransCanada lawsuit highlights need to scuttle TPP \(MSNBC, 7/16/16\)](#)
