

Quotes from Global Justice for Animals and the Environment's Sowmya Reddy

"If, as Gandhiji said, the greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated, imagine what he'd say about two nations who refuse to stop bludgeoning tens of thousands of defenseless baby animals every year. Canada and Norway have demonstrated themselves to be the disgrace of the international community by challenging the European Union's compassionate and visionary ban on seal products, instead of following Russia's lead and finally ending their barbaric seal hunts."

"Canada and Norway's governments have demonstrated that they are completely without compassion for animals. Thus, we must speak to them in a language they understand -- money. To save the seals compassionate people must boycott peas grown in Canada and avoid tourism in Norway. We must also write to Canada's prime minister to let him know that we are boycotting the Vancouver 2010 Olympics rather than spending our tourist money in a nation that tortures baby animals."

"Canada and Norway's WTO challenge to the EU's seal hunt ban should be a warning to India. As long as we are a member nation of the World Trade Organization, we too can be sued if we try to ban products produced with great animals suffering. We urge compassionate Indians to write to their MPs and demand that India pull out of the WTO to preserve our right to protect animals."

"Thanks to the World Trade Organization and its predecessor, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, Europe dropped its ban on wild fur from nations that use the cruel steeljaw leghold trap, the United States dropped rules protecting sea turtles from being killed in shrimp nets and dolphins from being killed in tuna nets. How long will it be before India is forced to change our animal protective laws as a result of a WTO challenge? India must pull out of the WTO to preserve our right to protect animals."

"This is not the first time the EU has been sued for legislation that protects animals. The United States also sued the EU for refusing to import products from cows injected with bovine growth hormones. These hormones are known to cause painful illness in cows and are believed to be unhealthy for consumers. Now that India is talking about importing milk we leave ourselves vulnerable to a WTO challenge if we refuse to import milk from cows treated with hormones. India must pull out of the WTO to protect cows and consumers."