TiSA:
Bad News for Communities and Workers

EVERYTHING YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE **TRADE IN SERVICES AGREEMENT**

~~The proposed~~ Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA) is designed ~~to liberalise international~~ ~~trade in services and~~ to set binding international ~~rules on how~~ participating countries ~~regulate services. The TiSA talks began in 2013, and officials~~ aim to complete the [deal] by the end of 2016, ~~although previous deadlines have been missed.~~

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Governments are rushing to complete a "Trade in Services Agreement", TiSA, which would strip political power away from citizens and hand an open chequebook to multinational corporations, allowing them to take control over the services that people rely on every day.

Much of the money extracted from local communities would end up in the tax havens favoured by the richest one per cent.

The TiSA negotiations are being done behind closed doors, by trade negotiators of the 28 European Union countries and from 22 more industrial and developing countries.

Most of their discussions are secret.

Although lobbyists from some of the world's most powerful multinationals have inside access even as elected representatives in parliaments have been kept in the DARK!

"TiSA is poison for democracy. If it is adopted, workers' rights will be eroded, corporations will have the box seat in economic decision-making and the door will open to a new wave of privatisation. Unlike other trade agreements, TiSA is not about producing and selling goods across borders. It is about capital movement, and services, private and public, which people rely on every day. From what is known about the secret negotiations, this agreement would cause permanent damage and transfer yet more wealth to a handful of powerful global companies. It's not too late to stop it and if there is a real need for a services agreement, to start an open and democratic process that works for people and not just corporations."

Sharan Burrow, ITUC General Secretary.

ALL ABOUT TiSA
EVERYTHING YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE **TRADE IN SERVICES AGREEMENT**
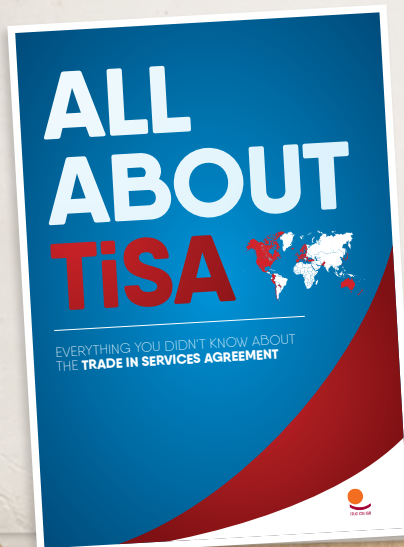
To find out what your government is not telling you about this agreement, read the ITUC report **"Everything you didn't know about TiSA"**

https://www.ituc-csi.org/all-about-tisa

Leaked documents show that:

- TiSA would lead to a massive transfer of power away from governments to multinationals, and would slash the very regulations that keep workers and consumers safe, that retain democratic control over the economy and that provide the springboard for local companies to grow and provide jobs.

- TiSA would strangle the regulation of banks and finance, even though weak regulation was at the root of the 2008 financial crisis. Its "financial services" definition means that virtually all investment and capital transfers would be fully liberalised and that tax havens would benefit.

- TiSA would push the "Uberisation" of many more jobs, aiding companies to avoid responsibilities to their workers and consumers.

ITUC global polling shows that 82 per cent of people want workers in companies like Uber to have the same rights and protections as other workers. TiSA would put that further out of reach.

But also:

- TiSA would mean deregulation of:

transport, energy, retail, e-commerce, shipping, express delivery, telecoms, health, private education and much more...

- TiSA would give a boost to privatisation and force governments to "consult" with corporations on law-making, extending the reach of multinationals into the very fabric of democracy. Even an increase in the minimum wage could be challenged.

- Internet neutrality could be thrown in the dustbin and governments could effectively lose the ability to protect personal data.

- Accountants, architects, educators, engineers, lawyers, nurses and many others risk to see their incomes fall as TiSA provisions make it harder to compete against powerful multinational conglomerates. With TiSA the race to the bottom will only get worse.

- No going back. TiSA negotiators have agreed a plan to lock-in liberalisation – once a service sector is fully opened, governments would be forbidden from ever protecting it.

TiSA is a global recipe for the lowest common denominator.
It will mean a bonfire of the very regulations which protect and support our communities.

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