



Peoples Sovereignty versus the Architecture of Impunity

Workshop

(English/Français/Castellano)

Place: Peoples Climate Summit, Montreuil, Lycée Jean Jaures/ Salle polyvalente
Day: Sunday 6th Dec, 10 am – 12 pm

Over the last 40 years of neoliberal capitalism, we have witnessed transnational corporations (TNCs) emerge as major global forces exercising unprecedented and unaccountable economic and political power. This power is expressed through wealth: 37 of the world's 100 largest economies are corporations. TNCs operate in and seek to control major areas of human life, such as food production, land, natural resources, energy, water, health, public services and finance. They expand the further enclosure of the commons through a global resource grab, and act with widespread impunity despite the devastating social, economic and environmental impacts of their operations. Furthermore, among the Top 25 corporations classified by revenue, 15 are linked to the fossil fuels industry, being accountable for the greenhouse gas emissions that bring the whole planet to environmental collapse through climate change. And the false solutions proposed are also linked to profit-making schemes. This is why corporations are trying to capture the agenda of the UN climate talks in Paris, COP 21. Their impunity is ensured thanks to an architecture built on a Trade and Investment Regime where agreements as TTIP, CETA, TPP and TISA and the EU-Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) provide instruments of investor protection and deny protection to the public interest or peoples rights.

To confront this situation, the social movements, networks and organisations ***from the Global Campaign to Dismantle Corporate Power and Stop Impunity, are building a Peoples Treaty, based on Peoples Sovereignty.*** This affirms an alternative vision on law and access to justice with the people as protagonists, political actors and originators of the laws and norms of a political, economic and legal system that will end the current framework of extraordinary privileges and impunity enjoyed by transnational corporations. During the workshop, a collective analysis will be promoted with the exposure of cases of corporate impunity in different regions. This will be followed with sharing of strategies and flagging up the political Calendar for better coordination of convergence activities.

Programme

Presentation of the Global Campaign/ New phases of work and challenges in building alternatives

Brid Brennan (Transnational Institute)

First part: Exposing the Architecture of corporate impunity

Facilitation: Tony Clarke (Polaris Institute) & Mónica Vargas (Transnational Institute)

Chevron-Texaco impunity in Ecuador.

Humberto Piaguaje (UDAPT-Ecuador)

How climate negotiations and corporate agenda express in the Low Carbon Agriculture Plan. Implications in agricultural policies and in territories

Maria Kazé (Brazilian Peasant Movement – MPA/La Via Campesina – Carta de Belem)

Dams as False solutions

Juan Pablo Soler (Ríos Vivos, Colombia)

French TNCs impacts in Morocco.

Lucile Daumas (Attac-Maroc)

Mining impacts in Philippines

Joseph Purugganan (Focus on the Global South)

TNCs impunity in Africa: the case of ProSavana

Campaña no al ProSavana (Mozambique)

EDF-ENGIE in Europe

Olivier Petitjean (Observatoire des Multinationales, France)

Questions/remarks from the audience

Second part: Out of resistances, building alternatives

Facilitation: Diana Aguiar (FASE-Brazil) & Daniela Del Bene (XSE) / Sam Cossargilbert (FOEI)

The Peoples Treaty as an alternative

Member of the Global Campaign

Food Sovereignty and Aqua-agriculture as alternative practice confronting corporate impunity and climate change

Themba Nthavela (La Via Campesina – South Africa)

Energy sovereignty

Tchenna Maso, Movimento dos Atingidos por Barragens (MAB- Brazil)

Alternatiba

(tbc)

Auditoria de la deuda

CADTM

Plataforma de Desarrollo de las Americas (PLADA)

CSA (tbc)

Indigenous Environmental Network

Tom Goldtooth (tbc)

Next steps: going forward together

Questions/remarks from the audience

More information: <http://www.stopcorporateimpunity.org/>

Contact: campaign@stopcorporateimpunity.org or m.vargas@tni.org

Convenors:

Global Campaign to Dismantle Corporate Capture and Stop Impunity, and in particular: Friends of the Earth International, Attac-Maroc, CADTM, FASE-Brazil, Focus on the Global South, La Via Campesina, Movimento dos Atingidos por Barragens, RQIC, Transnational Institute, Polaris Institute, XSE, UDAPT.