Brand Guidelines of Transnational Institute Logo & publication formats

Version 2.0 | 7 November 2016



Introduction

The Transnational Institute (TNI) has a proud history of being at the cutting edge of analysis, research and activism on critical global issues. These branding guidelines are intended to reinforce the impact of our work by presenting it in a powerful, consistent and bold way. They enable TNI's talented designers to develop creative designs and work, while also helping our key audiences see that everything we produce comes from the same organisation.

The branding guidelines are designed to be used in conjunction with TNI's publications policy and author guidelines (both available on TNI's shared directory: Communications/How-To/Guidelines and Policies).

It is crucial that these guidelines are adhered to by all our designers and supported by TNI staff. Changing a font may seem like a minor edit but it can undermine the whole consistency of TNI's brand. If you wish to suggest a change to the formats or believe there is a strong case for a one-off exception, it must be agreed in writing with the Communications Coordinator.

These formats only apply to TNI produced publications – either ones produced solely by TNI or co-branded publications where we are leading on the design and doing much of the work. If the publication is co-branded and designed by another institution's designer or done in conjunction with a coalition eg Stop Corporate Impunity campaign, then the only rules that apply would be those related to the use of the logo.

For designers, a series of InDesign templates has been created so if you are using any new designers, please make sure they have these.

If you have any questions, please email branding@tni.org.

Denis Burke
Communications Coordinator'

The logo - formats & sizes





SMALLEST USE IN PRINT

(eps logo file at 100% is the smallest it should be when printed - based on the text 'transnationalinstitute' at 6.5pt)



ALTERNATE FORMATS

Use only when smaller logo is needed for spacing / hierarchy reasons (eps logo file at 100% is the smallest it should be when printed - based on the text 'transnationalinstitute' at 6.5pt)





ALTERNATE FORMATS

Use name / logo separate from each other when needed for design purposes. Make sure name and TNI mark are separated enough where each stands alone.

CORRECT USAGE

transnationalinstitute

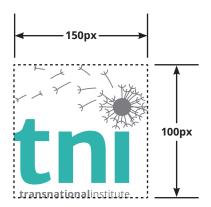


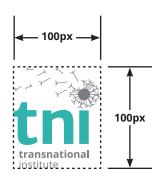
INCORRECT USAGE

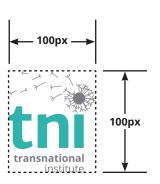
Name and logo should not combined into new 'logo' that is not one of the approved logo formats.



Minimum recommended Electronic Sizes







Strapline

The strapline for Transnational Institute is "ideas into movement."

ideas into movement

Font: Open Sans Bold

Tracking: 0

Case: Lowercase

Size: While font size can vary, try to keep the prominance on the logo, i.e. the tagline should never carry more visual weight than the logo or the name of the organisation

(transnationalinstitute).

Placement: While often times straplines appear directly under a logo, our strapline does not work in that fashion, the result being too busy. Rather than having the strapline appear near the logo it should be used as shown in the publication examples where it used in the footer of the cover page.



Colour: When used with the TNI logo in white on a coloured background, the strapline should be the same colour as the background.

When using the full colour logo on white, the strapline colour should be TNI green / PMS 325:



ideas into movement



ideas into movement

INCORRECT USAGE

Ideas Into Movement IDEAS INTO MOVEMENT

do not change caps

ideas into movement

do not change tracking

Ideas Into Movement

do not change font

ideas into movement

do not break into multiple lines



do not combine with logo



ideas into movement

do not use strapline / mark without the name transnationalinstitute appearing on the same page.

The logo - colours









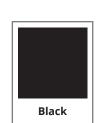




PRINT

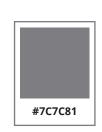






DIGITAL







R 66 R 124 R 0 G 179 G 124 G 0 174 129

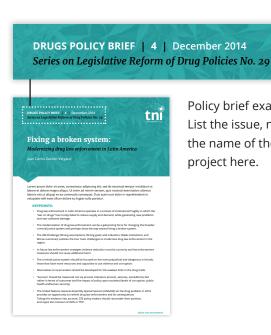
Transnational Institute and TNI

Transnational Institute should always be spelled out in full the first time it is used with (TNI) in brackets afterwards. After it has been used once, it can be spelled out as TNI.

Project names and Sub brands

Transnational Institute (TNI) has different projects, but to the outside world we should present ourselves as one institution. For that reason, as a general rule, TNI will no longer have sub-brands, use of distinct colours for each project, adaptations of the main logo to include projects, or reports published by Transnational Institute So-and-So programme rather than TNI. We are one Transnational Institute and this will be our default description. Where it is necessary to mention the Project this should be done in the body of the text, in descriptions of publication formats, and in inside or back covers of reports.

A set 'boilerplate' description of each project has been agreed which can be found together with the logos on the shared drive. There may be occasional exceptions to this, but they must be agreed with the Communications Manager.



Policy brief example. List the issue, not the name of the project here.



BACK PAGE: Non-Cobranded

When TNI is the only publishing organisation, the project description appears in a strip (Trade & Investment project for example).



BACK PAGE: Cobranded

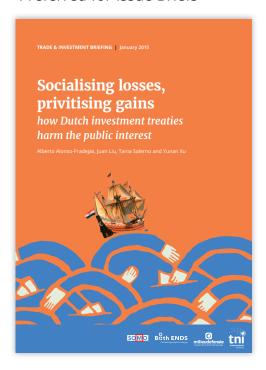
When a publication is cobranded, with one or more additional organisation, the project description is left off.

Co-branding publications

When another organisation is involved in creating or publishing a publication their logo may appear in the following places at the discretion of the project leader and / or designer.

1. COVER - BOTTOM RIGHT

Preferred for Issue Briefs



3. INSIDE FRONT COVER

Preferred for Reports



2. COVER - TOP RIGHT

Preferred for Policy Briefs



3. INSIDE FRONT COVER

Preferred for Reports



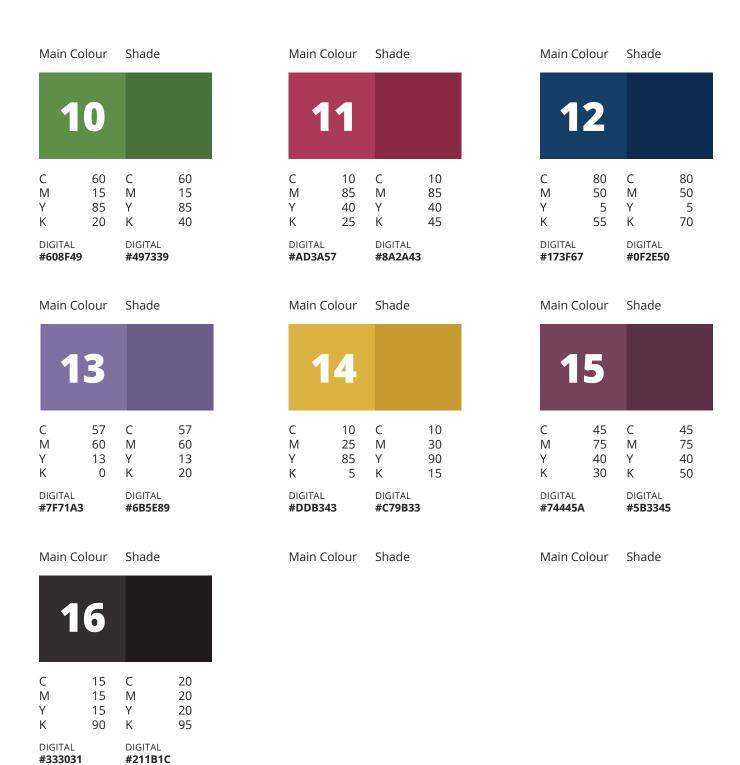
Primary colour palette

The primary TNI colour palette is shown here, along with each colour's "shade." The shade colour should be used when art elements appear on top of the main colour (see Primer Covers for example).



Extended colour palette

The extended TNI colour palette is shown here, along with each colour's "shade." The shade colour should be used when art elements appear on top of the main colour (see Primer Covers for example).



Typography

Consistent use of typography is critical in bringing consistency in quality and recognisability to our brand. Chosen for their clean lines and legibility both online and offline as well as their compatibility with the logo, Open Sans and Merriweather have been selected as the font families for TNI publications. Open Sans and Merriweather are diverse in weight and style, work well when paired together, and are open source fonts making them convenient to use internally and externally.

1: Open Sans - our sans-serif typeface

Preferable for long texts that will be read mostly online, open sans can also work well for headlines, subheadlines, etc. when a sans-serif font is compliments the design.

OPEN SANS LIGHT

Research and advocacy

OPEN SANS REGULAR

Research and advocacy

OPEN SANS SEMIBOLD

Research and advocacy

OPEN SANS BOLD

Research and advocacy

OPEN SANS EXTRABOLD

Research and advocacy

OPEN SANS LIGHT ITALIC

Research and advocacy

OPEN SANS REGULAR ITALIC

Research and advocacy

OPEN SANS SEMIBOLD ITALIC

Research and advocacy

OPEN SANS BOLD ITALIC

Research and advocacy

OPEN SANS EXTRABOLD ITALIC

Research and advocacy

2: Open Sans Condensed - our condensed typeface

Used sparingly for headlines, subheadlines, infographics, etc. where a condensed font is desirable. Rather than compressing the width of the regular open sans font, use these open sans condensed fonts:

OPEN SANS CONDENSED LIGHT Research and advocacy

OPEN SANS CONDENSED Research and advocacy

Typography

3. Merriweather - our serif typeface

Merriweather is preferable for headlines, subheadlines, and callout texts. It also works well for long body texts for materials that will be read mostly offline (printed).

MERRIWEATHER LIGHT

Research and advocacy

MERRIWEATHER REGULAR

Research and advocacy

MERRIWEATHER BOLD

Research and advocacy

MERRIWEATHER LIGHT ITALIC

Research and advocacy

MERRIWEATHER ITALIC

Research and advocacy

MERRIWEATHER BOLD ITALIC

Research and advocacy

*Greek Alphabet

Merriweather does not offer a Greek alphabet. For texts that contain Greek characters please use open sans in place of merriweather.

Type Styles

CHARACTER STYLES / PARAGRAPH STYLES

All formats use Character Styles and Paragraph Styles defined in their InDesign files. See the original InDesign files provided for details about font sizes paragraph spacing / etc. Changes can only be made in consultation with the Communications Manager. It is recommended that text changes be made to the Character Style which will apply across the entire document.

Optimal body text font size

The following font specifications were determined as a happy medium that works in both printed and online applications.

Open Sans regular Font:

Font size: 10pt Leading: 16pt

*Leading can change slightly increase or decrease to make content fit well on a page.

Smaller font sizes

Smaller font sizes may be used for special circumstances like table or box text, image captions, etc. Please avoid going under 7pt text.

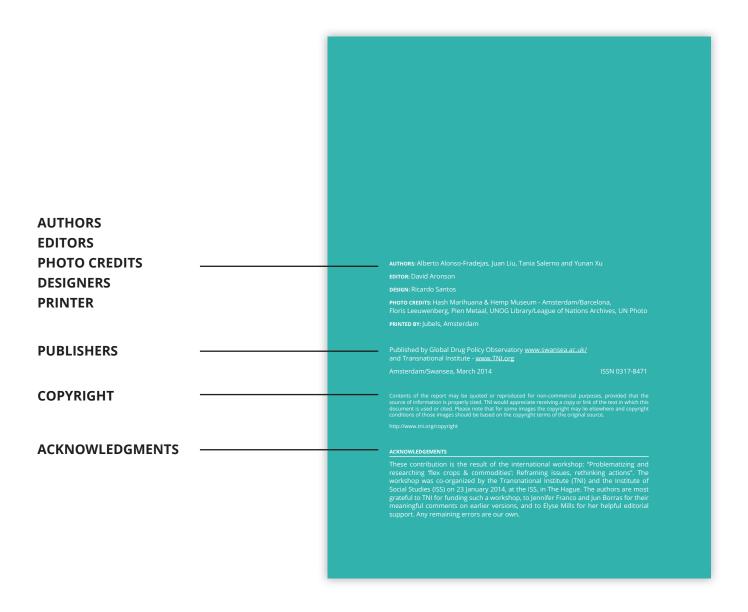
Page Layout

Three different layouts have been created as options. Please select the layout that works best with the content. Please see page 35 through end for examples of the following option:

- 1. Standard Format 1-column (preferable for documents viewed mostly online)
- 2. Standard Format 2-column (preferable for longer printed documents)
- 3. Standard Format wide-left (use as needed to accomodate content)

Standardized sections

Author / Credit pages: On longer documents such as reports this appears on the inside cover. Shorter documents it can appear as the second to last page - the page before the back cover.



Standardized sections

BACK PAGES





BACK PAGE WITH PROJECT DESCRIPTION

BACK PAGE WITH DOCUMENT SUMMARY / MULTIPLE ORGANISATIONS

Exceptions for back pages

For shorter documents such as fact sheets and working papers, you can use a simpler format crediting author/editor/designer and featuring the website. >

AUTHOR: Dave Bewley-Taylor, Tom Blickman, Martin Jelsma EDITOR: David Aronson COPY EDITOR: Todd Matthews PROOF READER: Jennifer Jane DESIGN: Evan Clayburg

FORMAT 1 Policy brief

A policy brief is intended particularly for policy-makers and influencers with a clearly stated position by TNI and a concise outline of a specific issue. As a general rule:

- It should be short: between 2,000 and 7,000 words
- · Easily readable online
- Include a summary of key points on the first page

- Make recommendations at the end
- Doesn't usually feature graphics
- Occasionally, there will be longer policy briefs eg commenting on legislation

TNI PUBLICATION

Logos appears on top right. Strapline appears at bottom right.



CO-BRANDED PUBLICATION

Logos appear top right with equal visual weight. TNI always appears at far right.

IGO TRADE POLICY BRIEF | June 2015 **Central and Eastern European** countries at the crossroads Why governments should reject investment arbitration in TTIP Most policy-makers and MEPs from Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries have, so far, supported the inclusion of investment arbitration in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) on the basis that investment treaties already exist and that TTIP

offers better protections for states and will lead to an increase in investment. However, the evidence suggests that a TTIP that includes the Investor-State Dispute Settlement mechanism (ISDS), will fail to deliver on its promises and will worsen the capacity for Central and Eastern European countries to regulate.

KEYPOINTS:

- There is no empirical evidence that including ISDS in TTIP will attract more US foreign direct investment.
- While existing Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) between the US and CEE countries
 can be terminated at any time, signing TTIP will lock CEE countries into providing
 extensive rights to US investors indefinitely.
- Signing ISDS in TTIP will likely lead to a surge in US investors challenging governments regulatory measures at international arbitration tribunals.
- The European Union "reform" proposals for ISDS make no difference in investor. protection regime and will not improve the space of governments to regulate.
- The existence of intra-European BITs does not justify the inclusion of ISDS in TTIP.
- The existing BITs with the US were signed at a very different time and context than today. Instead of reconfirming their commitment to a flawed ISDS system by signing on to TITIP, CEE governments should join the growing number of countries that are re-thinking their investment policy.

Taking this evidence into account, CEE policy makers should reconsider their position, and reject the inclusion of ISDS in TTIP.

no strapline used

Policy brief: cover page

PUBLICATION TYPE / VERSION /DATE

DRUGS POLICY BRIEF | 4 | December 2014 Series on Legislative Reform of Drug Policies No. 29

Fixing a broken system:

voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur.

Logo appears top right

PUBLICATION TYPE / VERSION /DATE

SERIES TITLE -

HEADLINE —

SUBHEADLINE -

AUTHOR -

FRONT PAGE BODY

Colour for numbers / callouts should be the same TNI colour selected as the main Colour for the policy brief.

Cover with Image





Images should be either grayscale or duotone image that use the TNI colour palette. In general, one strong image is preferable to collaged images. Choose images that work well as a background and do not compete with the title / logo that will appear on to of the image.

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in

Modernizing drug law enforcement in Latin America

KEYPOINTS:

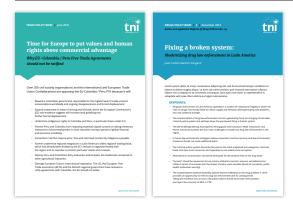
Juan Carlos Garzón Vergara*

- Drug law enforcement in Latin America operates in a context of institutional fragility in which the "war on drugs" has mostly failed to reduce supply and demand, while generating new problems and vast collateral damage.
- The modernization of drug law enforcement can be a galvanizing force for changing the broader criminal justice system and perhaps show the way toward fixing a broken system
- $\label{thm:challenge} The \, 4 \text{W-Challenge (Wrong assumptions; Wrong goals and indicators; Weak institutions; and} \\$ Worse outcomes) outlines the four main challenges to modernize drug law enforcement in the
- . In future law enforcement strategies violence reduction must be a priority and law enforcement measures should not cause additional harm.
- The criminal justice system should be focused on the most prejudicial and dangerous criminals, those that have more resources and capacities to use violence and corruption.
- · Alternatives to incarceration should be developed for the weakest links in the drug trade.
- "Success" should be measured not via process indicators (arrests, seizures, extraditions) but rather in terms of outcomes and the impact of policy upon societies (levels of corruption, public health andhuman security).
- The United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on the drug problem in 2016 provides an opportunity to rethink drug law enforcement and its consequences Taking this evidence into account, CEE policy makers should reconsider their position, and reject the inclusion of ISDS in TTIP.

ideas into movement

Strapline appears bottom right using the same TNI colour selected as the main colour for the policy brief

Cover without Image



If no good images are available, a solid colour background may be used. Colours can be chosen from the TNI extended colour palette found on page 4 of this document. These colours can be used to differentiate between policy brief series.











Issue brief

An Issue Brief unpacks and explains a specific issue that TNI is working on. It could also be called a Backgrounder. It is intended primarily for activists, academics and researchers.

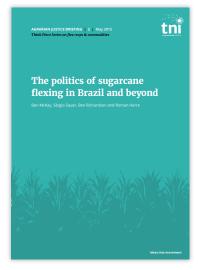
- Between 3,000 and 12,000 words
- Includes summary at beginning unless very small
- Format can be Q and A or sections plus case-studies
- May feature graphics/tables etc



Issue brief

Issue Brief Covers





Colors chosen from the TNI extended colour palette to define series.

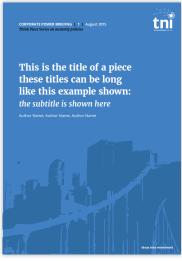
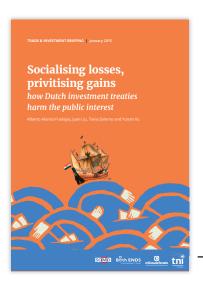




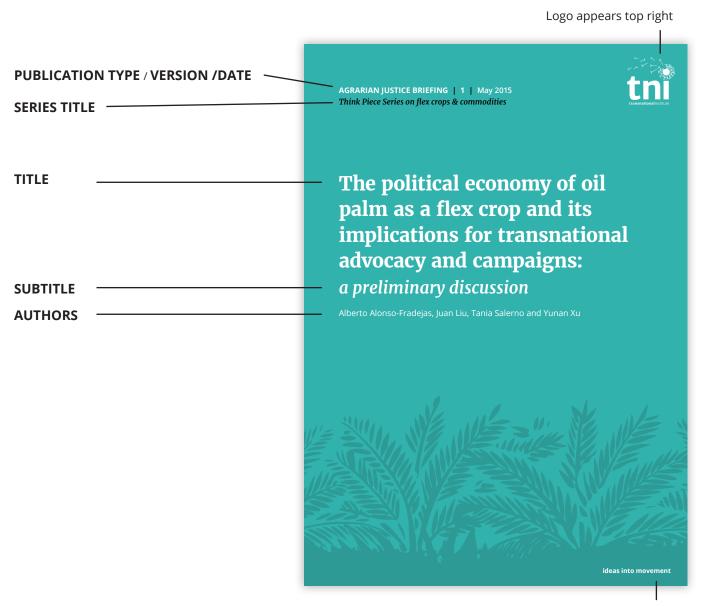


Illustration style / colours can also differentiate between series



Co-branded briefs logos appear at bottom right of cover

Issue brief: cover page



Strapline appears bottom right

Reports

A report has in-depth analysis, usually original research, intended for media, social movement leaders, academics, and policy-makers.

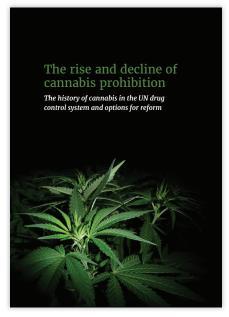
- 15,000 to 30,000 words
- Printed
- Includes executive summary (usually with key findings), Introduction, chapters, and recommendations at end
- Investment made in using good photos or bold graphics to accompany the text
- Usually tied to press work and focused associated outreach (press release, social media graphics etc etc)

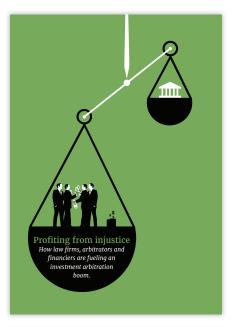


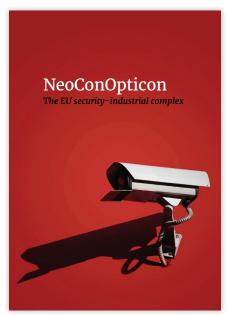
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Reports

COVER















While reports should have unique designs based on the content / theme, certain suggestions should be followed to ensure a level of consistency.

1. FONTS

Rely mainly on the Merriweather font family. If a sans-serif font is needed use Open Sans.

2. LOGOS

Keep all logos off the front cover. Logos should appear on the back cover, or on inside title pages.

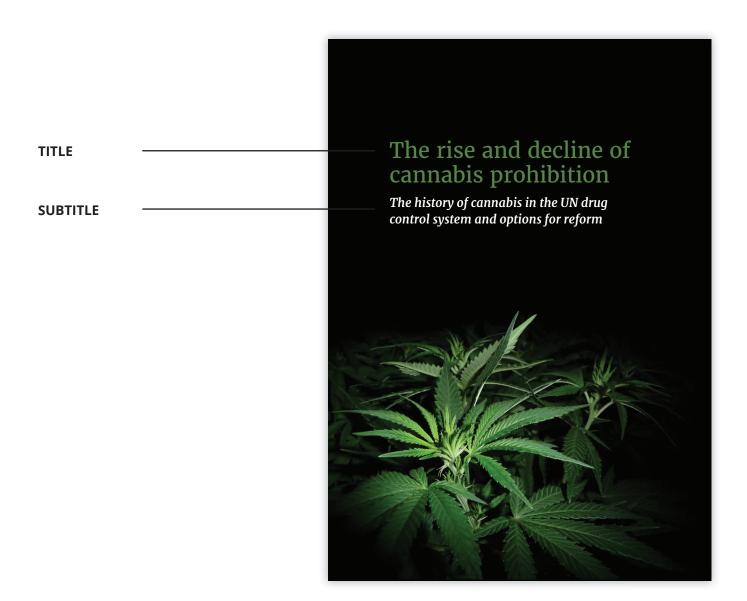
3. COLOURS

When possible, use the TNI extended colour palette provided in this guide. If using colours outside of this colour palette - for example to work well with a particular photo please make sure they work well with the TNI colour palette.

4. IMAGES

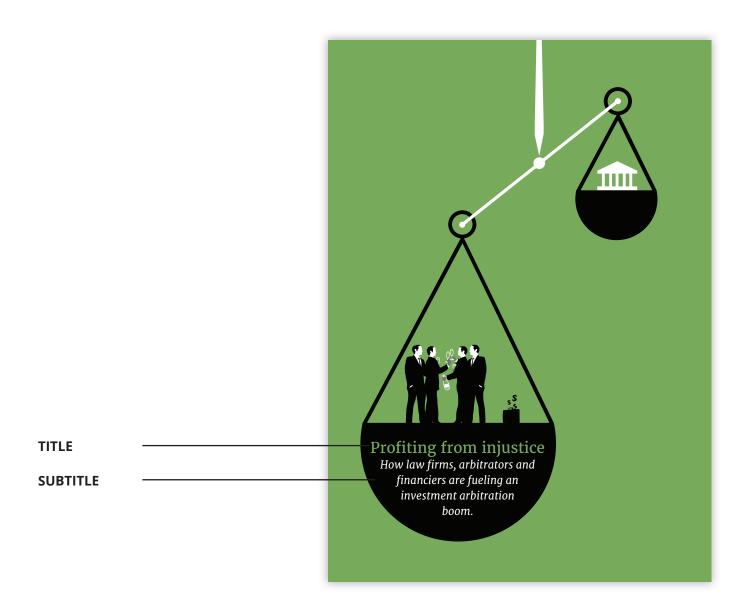
Use simple bold graphics or photos that work well with a single colour.

Report 1: cover



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Report 2: cover



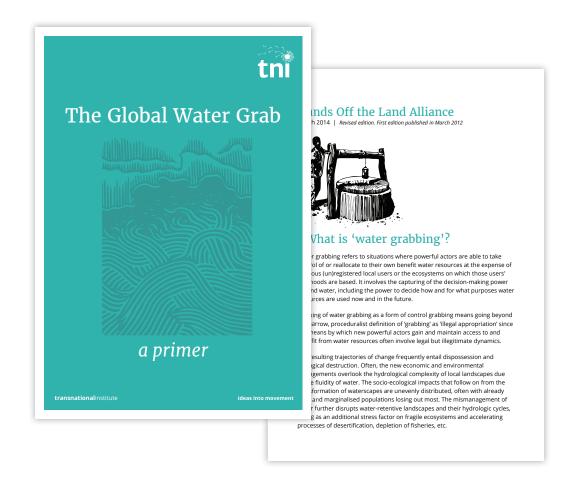
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FORMAT 4 Primer

A primer is a concise overview introducing an issue TNI works on to activists, students, public and journalists. It is a highly popular format.

- Printed size: A5
- 5,000 to 12,000 words

- Question and Answer Format
- Boxed case studies

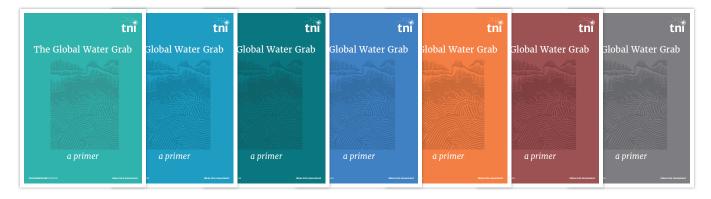


Primer: cover page



COLOURS

Colours chosen from the TNI extended colour palette defined in this document



Primer: inside / back page

INSIDE PAGE

Hands Off the Land Alliance

March 2014 | Revised edition. First edition published in March 2012



1 What is 'water grabbing'?

Water grabbing refers to situations where powerful actors are able to take control of or reallocate to their own benefit water resources at the expense of previous (un)registered local users or the ecosystems on which those users' livelihoods are based. It involves the capturing of the decision-making power around water, including the power to decide how and for what purposes water resources are used now and in the future.

Thinking of water grabbing as a form of control grabbing means going beyond the narrow, proceduralist definition of 'grabbing' as 'illegal appropriation' since the means by which new powerful actors gain and maintain access to and benefit from water resources often involve legal but illegitimate dynamics.

The resulting trajectories of change frequently entail dispossession and ecological destruction. Often, the new economic and environmental arrangements overlook the hydrological complexity of local landscapes due to the fluidity of water. The socio-ecological impacts that follow on from the transformation of waterscapes are unevenly distributed, often with already poor and marginalised populations losing out most. The mismanagement of $% \left\{ 1\right\} =\left\{ 1\right\} =\left\{$ water further disrupts water-retentive landscapes and their hydrologic cycles. acting as an additional stress factor on fragile ecosystems and accelerating processes of desertification, depletion of fisheries, etc.

BACK PAGE



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Fact sheet

A fact sheet is TNI's simplest format, intended for activists, students, public and policy-makers to present important facts related to an issue.

- 500 to 2000 words
- Usually done in numbered format eg 8 facts on EU-Colombia Trade Agreement
- No graphics/photos

FACT SHEET | June 2015



This is the title of a fact sheet

This is a subtitle of the fact sheet shown here

Over 200 civil society organisations and the International and European Trade Union Confederations are opposing the EU-Colombia / Peru FTA because it will:

- 1. Reward a Colombian government responsible for the highest level of trade unionist sassinations worldwide and ongoing disappearances and forced displacemen
- 2. Expand investment in areas of mining and biofuels, which the European Commission's (EC) own evidence suggests will increase land grabbing and further forced displacement.
- 3. Undermine indigenous rights in Colombia and Peru, in particular those under ILO

Inter-regional trade has traditionally received strong support in the European Union for its potential to increase investment, create jobs and build linkages and mutual ties between regions. However, it is widely agreed that commercial needs can not take precedence over human rights, tackling poverty and environmental degradation, and the need for sustainable development. The European Union's own documents assert this: "Within the broad context of EU policy making, coherence is a multidimensional commitment which needs to take place within the overall framework of the EU sustainable development strategy. Non-development policies [trade agriculture, fisheries, food safety, transport and energy] should respect development policy objectives..." (European Commission, 2005:3).

That is why the European Trade Union Confederation (representing 60 million members from 36 countries) along with more than 200 civil society organisations and social movements from Europe and Latin America are shocked that the EC is prepared to sign deals with Colombia and Peru – which will legitimise a country responsible for the highest levels of assassinations of trade unionists, and exacerbate violations of indigenous rights across the Andes and the Amazon.

If the European Union wants to show that its rhetoric of 'policy coherence' and respect for human rights is more than empty words, it needs to draw the line somewhere and say 'no' to the EU-Colombia/Peru FTAs. At the very least, these agreements must be opened up to a Europewide debate by elected politicians, which can be done if these agreements are declared 'mixed

After failing to negotiate an Association Agreement on a region-to-region base with the Andean Region, the EU went ahead and negotiated bilateral Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with Peru and Colombia alone. These FTAs would replace the preferential scheme for Colombia and Peru, the General System of Preferences, known as GSP+

The formal negotiations closed in March 2010 but the agreements are yet to come into force. Once the final texts are initialled by the negotiators, the Commission will submit them to the Council

1 The title of the fact sheet here

approval. The FTAs will then be submitted by the Council to the European Parliamen sent1. Furthermore, if the agreements are declared "mixed", national Parliaments of the nber States would also need to ratify the agreements. According to the legal services nt of the European Parliament, when National Parliaments are consulted, their vote e whole Agreement and not just to the part that is of their competence. Therefore, if nal or local Parliament decides not to ratify, the agreement would not enter into force. ification is also needed by the Peruvian and Colombian Congresse:

whether the agreement is "mixed" or purely "commercial" is key to define who has ce to ratify. According to the leaked version of the negotiated text (European Union Peru, 2010), these agreements contain provisions that are not part of the common y of the EU: disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (Art.2), tic clause (Art.1) and some provisions on environment. The inclusion of these clause the legal basis for the agreements to be considered of "mixed" nature. Furthermore, nents will have repercussions in areas that are non-commercial, such as public health rvices, the capacity of States to promote sustainable development and human rights, ore National Parliaments should be consulted.

egal services departments of the European Commission, European Parliament and the ve yet to produce legal opinions on the issue, parliamentarians of Germany, UK and ve all presented motions demanding that the agreement with Colombia and Peru be nixed and therefore be discussed and put for ratification by their respective national

n by German MPs insisted on the German Bundestag's right to assess and ratify the en the EU, Colombia and Peru. They called on "the Bundestag to exercise its legislative ing a decision on the ratification of a free-trade agreement between the EU. Colombia which, rather than dealing exclusively with trade policy, also deals with issues relating to constitutional and human rights policy" (German Bundestag, 2010). In a similar tone, the UK MPs, called on the Government to accept that the EU FTA with Colombia and Peru agreement, and therefore "has to be expressly ratified by each member state, including

g of the agreements by the Council and the beginning of the ratification process is likely e in 2012, and the conclusion much later. However, the European Commission wil tainly propose the provisional implementation of the FTAs at the time the European t is supposed to give its consent.

ons from Colombia and Europe, including the European Trade Union Confederation the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), as well as civil socie ons from Latin America and Europe have repeatedly presented evidence of the socioand environmental impacts of these FTAs2 and exposed as unacceptable the willingness spean Union to enter into FTAs with countries where clear abuses of human rights and n rights are committed, in some cases with the complicit support of the government3. are, recently, they have denounced the Colombian government for its attempts to e international community, and the European Parliament in particular, on the advances ne Santos Administration regarding the situation of human rights.

American and European parliamentarians have voiced similar concerns and have e FTA signed by the EU with Colombia and Peru for prioritising European investments nancing on above any other social or human rights concerns. Several MEPs have raised

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Fact sheet

This format can also work for other simple documents such as declarations or statements.

COVER PAGE

FACT SHEET | June 2015



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This is a subtitle of the fact sheet shown here

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If the European Union wants to show that its rhetoric of policy coherence and tree Amazon.

If the European Union wants to show that its rhetoric of policy coherence and respect for human rights is more than empty words, it needs to draw the line somewhere and say no' to the EU-Colombia/Peru FTAs. At the very least, these agreements must be opened up to a Europewide debate by elected politicians, which can be done if these agreements are declared 'mixed agreement'.

After failing to negotiate an Association Agreement on a region-to-region base with the Andean Region, the EU went shead and negotiated bilateral Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with Peru and Colombia alone. These FTAs would replace the preferential scheme for Colombia and Peru, the General System of Preferences, known as GSP+.

The formal negotiations closed in March 2010 but the agreements are yet to come into force. Once the final texts are initialled by the negotiators, the Commission will submit them to the Council

INSIDE PAGE

for formal approval. The FTAs will then be submitted by the Council to the European Parliame for formal approval. The FTAs will then be submitted by the Council to the European Parliament for its consent. Furthermore, if the agreements are declared "inxed", national Parliaments of the 27 EU Member States would also need to raitly the agreements. According to the legal services department of the European Parliament, when National Parliaments are consulted, their vote refers to the whole Agreement and not just to the part that is of their competence. Therefore, if one National or local Parliament decides not to raitly, the agreement would not enter into force. Finally, ratification is also needed by the Peruvian and Colombian Congresses.

Classifying whether the agreement is "mixed" or purely "commercial" is key to define who has competence to ratify. According to the leaked version of the negotiated text (European Union-Colombia-Peru, 2010), these agreements contain provisions that are not part of the common trade policy of the EU disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (Art.2), a democratic clause (Art.1) and some provisions on environment. The inclusion of these clauses constitutes the legal basis for the agreements to be considered of "mixed" nature. Furthermore, the agreements will have repercussions in areas that are non-commercial, such as public health, essential services, the capacity of States to promote sustainable development and human rights, and therefore National Parliaments should be consulted.

While the legal services departments of the European Commission, European Parliament and the Council have yet to produce legal opinions on the issue, parliamentarians of Germany, UK and Ireland have all presented motions demanding that the agreement with Colombia and Peru be declared mixed and therefore be discussed and put for ratification by their respective national

The motion by German MPs insisted on the German Bundestag's right to assess and ratify the FTA between the EU, Colombia and Peru. They called on "the Bundestag to exercise its legislative duty of taking a decision on the ratification of a freet-rade agreement between the EU, Colombia and Peru which, rather than dealing exclusively with trade policy, also deals with issues relating to structural, constitutional and human rights policy (German Bundestag, 2010), in a similar other them too the Department of the Colombia and Peru is a mixed agreement, and therefore "has to be expressly ratified by each member state, including the UK' (UK Parliament, 2010).

The signing of the agreements by the Council and the beginning of the ratification process is like to take place in 2012, and the conclusion much later. However, the European Commission will almost certainly propose the provisional implementation of the FTAs at the time the European Parliament is supposed to give its consent.

Trade Union From Colombia and Europe, including the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), as well as civil society organisations from Latin America and Europe have repeatedly presented evidence of the socio-economic and environmental impacts of these TRA2 and exposed as unacceptable the willimgness of the Union to enter into TRAs with countries where clear abuses of human rights and trade union rights are committed, in some cases with the complict support of the government3. Furthermore, recently, they have denounced the Colombian government for its attempts to mislead the international community, and the European Parlament in particular, on the advances made by the Santos Administration regarding the situation of human rights.

Some Latin American and European parliamentarians have voiced similar concerns and have rejected the FTA signed by the EU with Colombia and Peru for prioritising European investments in the region above any other social or human rights concerns. Several MEPs have raised

BACK PAGE

concerns with the European Commission in relation to human rights violations in Colombia and the displacement of farmers and indigenous communities due to land grabbing, among others

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ncerns and demands have been largely ignored by the European Com These concerns and demands have been largely ignored by the European Commission (EC), In a speech to the International Trade Committee of the European Parliament (IMTA) on 16 March 2010, European Commissioner for Trade Karel De Gucht (2010:2), presented his vision on the EU Trade Agreement with Colombia and Peru, arguing that these agreements will generate new opportunities for economic operators and act as an incentive for Andean countries to push through their reform agenda but also – more importantly – to develop the means to offer improved social protection. This would ultimately contribute to the alleviation of poverty". This briefing presents the evidence that contradicts the assumptions made by Mr. De Gucht and also summarises the reasons why trade unions and civil society organisations are calling for the non-ratification of these FTAs. these FTAs.

Strengthening of regional integration in the Andean region has been a declared core objective of the European Union since negotiations with Andean countries started in 2006. Both the negotiating mandate for an Association Agreement with the Community of Andean Nations (A) (European Commission, 2007) as well as the European Commission's Regional Strategy Paper for the Andean Community 2007-2013 (European Commission, 2007a) explicitly stated that supporting the strengthening of CAN integration system was crucial to creating political stability, economic growth and sustainable development in the region.

By refusing to allow for a differentiated approach as agreed by CAN countries at their meeting it Tarija in June 2007, the European commission caused a breakdown of negotiations with all CAI member states. The EU decision to pursue bilateral negotiations with Peau and Colombia, he aggravated the already existent tensions within CAN, and will almost certainly affect the advanc of the Andean integration process – one of the oldest regional blocks in Laitn America. This evidence of the lack of policy coherence between the trade and cooperation aims of the EU.

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Working papers / essays / memos

Working Papers are usually academic papers or chapter drafts intended mainly for an academic audience.

- 2,500 to 10,000 words
- Includes abstract or summary at beginning
- May use tables, photos, graphics inside
- May use in-text citations (most of our publications don't)

Essays are long-form articles or chapters/papers that make up a book that are put online but may be accompanied by a PDF. They follow the same design format as working papers, but are more likely to have a designed cover or image to publicise them.

This format can also be used for longer documents that don't need design inputs or which we don't want to branded like memos. See http://bit.ly/ungassmemo



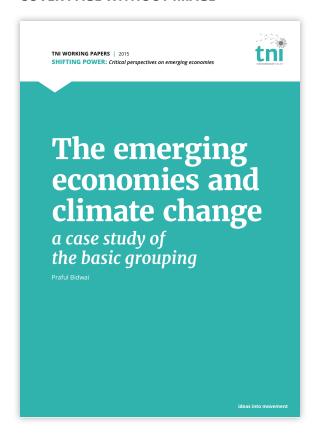
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Working papers / essays

COVER PAGE WITH IMAGE



COVER PAGE WITHOUT IMAGE



INSIDE PAGE

Oil Palm: A globalized 'golden crop' on the rise

For thousands of years, oil palm (Elaeis guineensis, a crop native to West Africa, has been used, processed and extracted for various purposes. Today, it is a glob-ally traded commodity with numerous uses, including both food and non-food purposes. This transformation is largely based on the current value of oil palm as a "flex crop" – a value that emerges from the converging world food, fuel, financial and environmental crises, and the subsequent transition towards 'a multi-centric global food system' (McMichael 2012: 684).

Flex crops and commodities are those with 'multiple uses (food, feed, fuel, industrial material) that are considered to be flexibly inter-changed (Boras et al. 2014: 1). This concept can be traced back to that of visubstitutionism in the bio-industrialization of agri-cultural commodifies, but forward by Goodman, Sorj and Wilkinson in 1987 as they examined how the new bitechnologies will enhance the efficiency with which all forms of biomass, whether field crops, crop residues, wood or organic waste, are converted in all uses, not only into food products but also fuel and chemical (Goodman et al. 1987: 136, emphasis in all uses, not only into food products but also fuel and chemical' (Goodman et al. 1987: 136, emphasis in original). They maintained that biotechnologies, allowing for improved conversion/processing and fractionation of Faw materials through industrial microbiology, would variandry microbiology, could variandry microbiology, would variand microbiology, would variand with product of a cope, Resen and Munch take the argument further by proposing the logic of flexing among multiple uses (of cereals), againging that, all the constituents are used as optimally as possible. Nothing is wasted. The propor-tions between the different streams can easily be changed according to actual demand and price relationships in the market (1944 in Goodman et al. 1987: 182, emphasis added). Therefore, the value of flex crops is related to the versatility of its derived commodities in volatile markets. As Borras et al. explain, flex crops seem to reduce uncertainty in a single crop sector through diversification of the product portfolio, thereby enabling investors to better anticipate and more nimbly react to changing prices in either direction – e.g., to better exploit price spikes or to better withstand price shocks' (2014: 2).

To understand how investors may use flex crops to control risk and uncertainty, it is useful to analyze the flexing among multiple uses of oil palm within a Value web; rather than alongside a Value chain' (Borras et al. 2014). This approach is more applicable to the analysis of oil palm flexing as it makes way for the complexity of actors, processes, structures, and their interrelations, in regard to oil palm flexing. As Virchow et al. argue:

We develop a biomass-based value web ap-proach, in which the 'web perspective' is used as a multidimensional methodology to understand the interrelation between several value chains, to explore synergies and to identify inefficiencies in the entire biomass sector [...]. The web perspec-tive focuses on the numerous forentive uses of one products, including recycling processes and the cascading effects during the processing phase of the biomass utilization (2014: n.p.).

While oil palm is a contentious crop which has been at the centre of much debate regarding the economic and socio-ecological impacts of land conversion, forest destruction, and financialization discussions on oil palm flexing remain at the 'anecdotal phase'. Borras et al. highlight the need to deepen understanding of the key elements of flexing in order to expand the discussion:

To what extent this actually occurs, how this actual-ly happens and what factors encourage/ discourage, facilitate or block real flexing from happening in one sector vs. another, or from one geographic setting to the next, are all empirical questions that ought to be investigated more carefully – and urgently (2014: 8).

4 | Flex Crops & Commodities

BACK PAGE

concerns with the European Commission in relation to human rights violations in Colombia and the displacement of farmers and indigenous communities due to land grabbing, among others

(Ferreira and Sārbu, 2009-2010). A cross-party group of MEPs that visited Colombia said, in a joint letter in December 2010, that there is no evidence that Colombia is tackling the abuses of human rights and trade union rights which President Santos had promised to address when he spoke to the European Parliament in July 2010 (MEPs, 2010).

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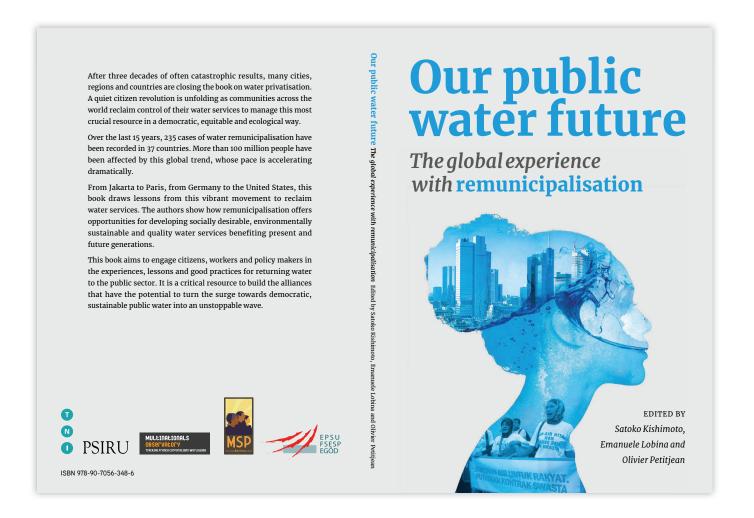
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Books

Books are involved projects intended for broad audience - not only social movement activists and researchers but also the media and the public. They follow the usual format of books.



While books should have unique designs based on the content / theme, certain suggestions should be followed to ensure a level of consistency.

1. FONTS

Rely mainly on the Merriweather font family. If a sans-serif font is needed use Open Sans.

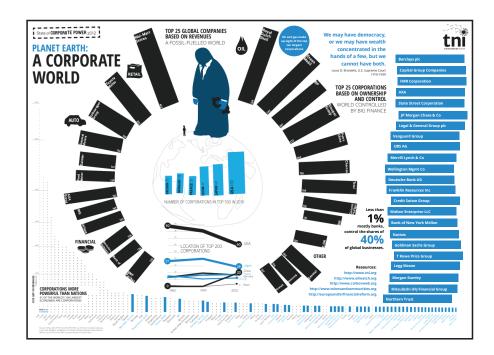
2. LOGOS

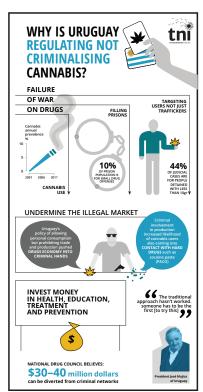
Keep all logos off the front cover. Logos may appear on the back cover, or on inside title pages but not more than once.

3. Colours

When possible, use the TNI extended colour palette provided in this guide. If using colours outside of this colour palette - for example to work well with a particular photo or theme please make sure they work well with the TNI colour palette.

Infographics





While infographics should have unique designs based on the content / theme, certain suggestions should be followed to ensure a level of consistency.

1. FONTS

Keep all fonts to Open Sans, Open Sans Condensed and Merriweather. When special circumstances are called for select additional fonts sparingly and make sure they work well in conjunction and don't compete with the other the TNI font families.

2. LOGOS

In most cases either the TNI black logo or the TNI white logo on a coloured background as to not compete with the colours of the infographic.

3. Colours

When possible, use the TNI extended colour palette provided in this guide. If using colours outside of this colour palette - for example to work well with a particular photo or theme please make sure they work well with the TNI colour palette.

Other formats

TNI may occasionally produce other formats such as leaflets or pamphlets, even though these are not our main formats. If it is produced only by TNI and it is important to stress TNI's involvement then please use TNI fonts and colours. However in some cases, it is best that it is not branded as TNI in which case our name is listed as producing it but without our logo. This could be for strategic reasons, because we are doing it as part of a coalition or because we want a completely different look. For example TNI's EU Crisis Pocket Guide was intended as an educational tool, didn't really fit our normal work, and looked out of place with our other work so it makes sense to downplay our visibility. This also allows for maximum flexibility in design.



Layout options

VERSION 1: Standard format 1-column

(preferable for documents viewed mostly online)

Section Header

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Full width image



Drone 'pilots' controlling lethal drone strikes in Afghanistan from their control stations at Creech U.S. air force base on the northern fringes of Las Vegas, Nevada

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Half-width images



A tribesman in North Western Pakistan sits in the remains of his house after a drone attack in January 2006. (Photo: Tariq Mahmood/AFP/Getty Images) Source: https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com



Funeral for civilian drone victims, North Western Pakistan Source: https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com

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Wrapping Images



A tribesman in North Western Pakistan sits in the remains of his house after a drone attack in January 2006. (Photo: Tariq Mahmood/AFP/Getty Images) Source: https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com

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the sheer immensity of the huge and foreign geographies that drone pilots target, moreover, mean that drone pilots are almost entirely ignorant culturally of those that they target and kill.

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BOX 1:

Recent reform initiatives in Latin America

Guatemala: The coordination mechanism between the Attorney General's Office, the Ministry of Interior, and the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala.

Guatemala launched an initiative in 2007 to strengthen the criminal investigation capacities of its National Civilian Police, adopting a decentralized management model for the unit responsible for violent crimes. In the process, it strengthened collaboration between the Ministry of Interior – which has jurisdiction over the police - and the Attorney General's Office. Supported by the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG),44 the strategy has proven effective in solving high-profile cases and bringing down the impunity rate for homicides. Prosecutors supervise police investigators as they collect evidence, obtain arrest or search warrants, and carry out wiretapping.45

Colombia: The "Quadrants Plan" and a decentralized police system based on establishing close ties with the community.

Colombia's National Plan for Community Policing by Quadrants (Plan Nacional de Vigilancia Comunitaria por Cuadrantes), which has been implemented in eight cities, developed a decentralized law enforcement strategy based on establishing close police ties with the community in order to address social problems and respond to crime. It is implemented based on a strategic study of each quadrant and relies on geo-referenced data to inform decision making and improve resource distribution. An evaluation by the Fundación Ideas para la Paz found that police stations with units fully trained to operate under this model were more effective at controlling crime compared to their counterparts who had not received this training.⁴⁶

Brazil: Rio de Janeiro's Pacifying Police Unit (UPP), a community policing programme created to regain control of the favelas in Rio de Janeiro.

Based primarily on establishing territorial control, this strategy is carried out in three phases: 1) "tactical" intervention by the military police; 2) stabilization; and 3) consolidation. The UPP is responsible for the latter two stages. According to Fernández de Castro et. al., in contrast to the previous "strike and retreat" strategy, this model operates as a form of community policing where territorial presence and quality of service differ significantly from traditional policing models.⁴⁷ The units are made up of new recruits who receive higher salaries and training in community relations, human rights, and conflict resolution.⁴⁸ Since its creation the programme's gains in public security have been evident, but recently the confidence in the UPP has been sapped by a series of human rights abuses by police officers. In some places disputes between drug traffickers and police have resurged. Some people argue the "pacification" has not been followed by improvement in social service and infrastructure.49

Brazil: Minas Gerais's "Fica vivo" ("Stay Alive"), created to reduce the number of murders in high-risk populations.

Launched in 2003, this program grew out of a geo-referenced study on violent crimes committed from 1992 to 2002 conducted by the government and the Federal University of Minas Gerais. It aims to reduce the number of murders in high-risk populations, namely young men aged 15 to 19. According to Fernández et al. Fica Vivo began with three basic premises: 1) violence tends to be concentrated in specific locations; 2) the use of violence is "contagious" and can spread among the most vulnerable groups; 3) violence is usually employed by a small group.50 Consistent with this thinking, the programme targeted six disadvantaged neighbourhoods with the highest violence rates. It set up task forces comprised of police, prosecutors, and representatives of the child welfare agency and the schools to design long-term strategies tailored to the problems in each area.⁵¹

Endnotes

- The name derives from a type of target calculation software first used in 2002, which US drone pilots routinely label using the dehumanising euphemism 'Bug Splat'.
- 2. Insideoutproject.org, 'Not a Bug Splat: Undisclosed Location, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Region, Pakistan ', April, 2014 available at http://www.insideoutproject.net/en/group-actions/pakistan-undisclosed-location
- 3. The best resource for exploring the politics and geographies of drone warfare is the superb website Geographical Imaginations run by Derek Gregory of the University of British Columbia. See https://geographicalimaginations.com. See also his essays 'From a view to a kill drones and late modern war,' Theory, Culture & Society 28.7-8 (2011): 188-215 and 'Drone geographies,' Radical Philosophy 183 (2014): 7-19.
- 4. See Derek Gregory, 'The everywhere war,' The Geographical Journal, 177.3 (2011): 238-250.
- 5. Importantly, the very term 'superiority' derives from the Latin prefix 'super' meaning 'high' or 'above'; conversely, the term 'subjugated' derives from the Latin prefix 'sub' meaning below.
- Henrik Furrst, and Karin Hagren Idevall, "Drone porn" and violence: comments on YouTube to a drone attack." 6. Unpublished paper presented at the 10th Conference of the European Sociological Association, 7–10 September 2011, p. 12. Cited in Mark Dorrian, 'Drone semiosis: Weaponry and witnessing,' Cabinet Magazine, Summer, pp. 52. 2014
- 7. Charlie Fripp, 'Do gamers make for perfect drone pilots?' IT News South Africa, October 10th, 2013, available at http://www.itnewsafrica.com/2013/10/do-gamers-make-for-perfect-drone-pilots/
- 8. Noah Shachtman, 'Attack of the Drones,' Wired 3:6, 2005. Tightening such connections further still, some of the latest video games themselves recreate the world of the drone 'pilot'. In the 'unmanned' game released by the Molleindustria company in 2012 – one example – players "control... unmanned attack aircraft by day, and by night goes home to a suburban life." The game is marketed under the strapline: "When the war is fought on screen, where is the real damage experienced? See http://www.gamesforchange.org/play/unmanned/
- 9. Dorrian, 'Drone semiosis', ibid. 55.
- 10. Tim Blackmore, War X: Human Extensions in Battlespace, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2011, pp. 137.
- 11. "Press Briefing by Press Secretary Jay Carney," January 31, 2012, available at http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-pressoffice/2012/01/31/press-briefing-press-secretary-jay-carney-13112.
- 12. Dawkins, James, Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicles: Examining The Political, Moral, And Social Implications, Air University Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, 2005.
- Tim Blackmore, 'Dead slow: Unmanned aerial vehicles loitering in battlespace,' Bulletin of Science, Technology Society; 25; 2005, 195-216, pp. 199
- 14. Chamayou, Grégoire, A Theory of the Drone, New York: The New Press, 2014. Pp. 13.
- 15. Brian Bennett, 'Homeland security adding 3 drone aircraft despite lack of pilots,' The Los Angeles Times, 27 October 2011. Available at articles.latimes.com/2011/oct/27/nation/la-na-us-drone-20111027.
- See Feldman, Keith, 'Empire's verticality: The Af/Pak frontier, visual culture, and racialization from above', Comparative American Studies, Vol. 9 No. 4, December, 325-41. 2011, PP. 330.
- Cited in Cook, Jonathon, 'Gaza: Life and death under Israel's drones,' Al Jazeera, 28th November, 2013, available at 'http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2013/11/gaza-life-death-under-israeldrones-20131125124214350423.html
- See also Anne Wright, 'Israeli Drone Strikes in Gaza in November 2012 Attack: Two-Thirds Killed Were Civilians,' Op.Ed. News, 2nd June, 2013, available at http://www.opednews.com/articles/Israeli-Drone-Strikes-in-G-by-Ann-Wright-130206-621.html
- 19. Said, Edward, Orientalism, New York: Pantheon, 1978. On the history of Orientalism, see Gregory, Derek, Geographical Imaginations, Oxford: Blackwell, 1994.
- 20. Weizman, Eyal, Hollow Land: Israel's Architecture of Occupation, London: Verso. 2007, Pp. 325
- 21. Neocleous, Mark, War Power, Police Power, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2014, pp. 153.

Layout options

VERSION 2: Standard format 2-column

(preferable for longer printed document)

Section headline level one

Inter-regional trade has traditionally received strong support in the European Union for its potential to increase investment, create jobs and build linkages and mutual ties between regions. However, it is widely agreed that commercial needs can not take precedence over human rights, tackling poverty and environmental degradation, and the need for sustainable development. The European Union's own documents assert this: "Within the broad context of EU policy making, coherence is a multidimensional commitment which needs to take place within the overall framework of the EU sustainable development strategy. Non-development policies [trade, agriculture, fisheries, food safety, transport and energy] should respect development policy objectives..." (European Commission, 2005:3).

That is why the European Trade Union Confederation (representing 60 million members from 36 countries) along with more than 200 civil society organisations and social movements from Europe and Latin America are shocked that the EC is prepared to sign deals with Colombia and Peru - which will legitimise a country responsible for the highest levels of assassinations of trade unionists, and exacerbate violations of indigenous rights across the Andes and the Amazon.

If the European Union wants to show that its rhetoric of 'policy coherence' and respect for human rights is more than empty words, it needs to draw the line somewhere and say 'no' to the EU-Colombia/ Peru FTAs. At the very least, these agreements must be opened up to a Europe-wide debate by elected politicians, which can be done if these agreements are declared 'mixed agreement'.

Section headline level one

After failing to negotiate an Association Agreement on a region-to-region base with the Andean Region, the EU went ahead and negotiated bilateral Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with Peru and Colombia alone. These FTAs would replace the preferential scheme for Colombia and Peru, the General System of Preferences, known as GSP+.

The formal negotiations closed in March 2010 but the agreements are yet to come into force. Once the final texts are initialled by the negotiators, the Commission will submit them to the Council for formal approval. The FTAs will then be submitted by the Council to the European Parliament for its consent1. Furthermore, if the agreements are declared "mixed", national Parliaments of the 27 EU Member States would also need to ratify the agreements. According to the legal services department of the European Parliament, when National Parliaments are consulted, their vote refers to the whole Agreement and not just to the part that is of their competence. Therefore, if one National or local Parliament decides not to ratify, the agreement would not enter into force. Finally, ratification is also needed by the Peruvian and Colombian Congresses.

Section headline level one: longer title to show multiple lines in a section headline

The inclusion of these clauses constitutes the legal basis for the agreements to be considered of "mixed" nature. Furthermore, the agreements will have repercussions in areas that are non-commercial, such as public health, essential services, the capacity of States to promote sustainable development and human rights, and therefore National Parliaments should be consulted.

While the legal services departments of the European Commission, European Parliament and the Council have yet to produce legal opinions on the issue, parliamentarians of Germany, UK and Ireland have all presented motions demanding that the agreement with Colombia and Peru be declared mixed and therefore be discussed and put for ratification by their respective national parliaments.

The signing of the agreements by the Council and the beginning of the ratification process is likely to take place in 2012, and the conclusion much later. However, the European Commission will almost certainly propose the provisional implementation of the FTAs at the time the European Parliament is supposed to give its consent.

Trade Unions from Colombia and Europe, including the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), as well as civil society organisations from Latin America and Europe have repeatedly presented evidence of the socio-economic and environmental impacts of these FTAs2 and exposed as unacceptable the willingness of the European Union to enter into FTAs with countries where clear abuses of human rights and trade union rights are committed, in some cases with the complicit support of the government3. Furthermore, recently, they have denounced the Colombian government for its attempts to mislead the international community, and the European Parliament in particular, on the advances made by the Santos Administration regarding the situation of human rights.

Section subheadline level two

The European Commission argues that the agreement is a good deal because it requires ambitious commitments from all sides. It assumes that EU, Colombia and Peru are equal partners, yet there are huge asymmetries between the EU on one side and Colombia and Peru on the other. For example, the gross national income (GNI) per capita of the EU is 3.3 times the GNI per capita of Colombia and 3.6 times the one of Peru4. According to the EU-Andean Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA, 2009: 24, 27), "by 2000, it was estimated that 45 percent of children in Colombia live in poverty. High income inequality and demographic transitions are among the most significant factors that help to explain this pattern". The report also noted that "widespread inequality was observed in terms of income, poverty rates and most related social indicators.

Decreasing these differences among and inside the regions was to be a priority of the negotiations. However, the agreements do not incorporate effective mechanisms that take into consideration the existing wide asymmetries. Rather, they are likely to increase these inequalities. This concern has been expressed by the UN Economic and Social Council that in 2010 referring to Colombia stated:

"The Committee is concerned that bilateral and multilateral trade agreements signed by the State party may affect the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, in particular of disadvantaged and marginalized groups, such as indigenous and Afro-Colombian peoples and persons living in rural areas" (UN, 2010a:3).

Colombia and Peru FTAs with the EU contain provisions related to investment, intellectual property, competition policy, government procurement and services in addition to demands for trade liberalisation. The inclusion of far-reaching demands in these areas will require crucial changes in national law and policy in these developing countries. Furthermore, it will likely reduce Colombia and Peru's policy space to promote policies of sustainable and equitable development in these critical areas.

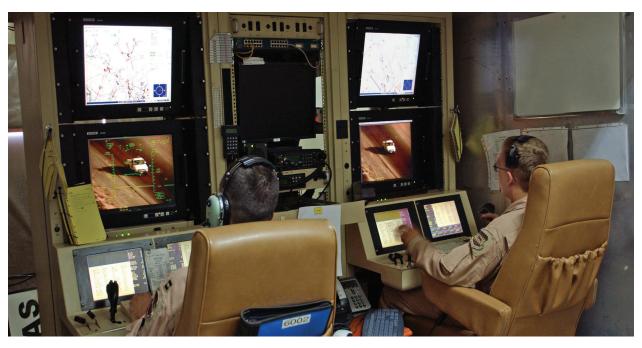
Section headline level two: longer subheadline to show multiple lines in a section subheadline

Because import taxes in Peru and Colombia for EU products are higher than EU import taxes, the FTA requires substantially more effort from these Latin American countries in reducing tariffs. As a consequence governments will see large reductions in tax income that they could have otherwise used on social expenditures. In the case of Peru, it is expected a decrease in tariff revenues of 27.8 percent. Furthermore, many domestic sectors will be affected

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Drone 'pilots' controlling lethal drone strikes in Afghanistan from their control stations at Creech U.S. air force base on the northern fringes of Las Vegas, Nevada

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A tribesman in North Western Pakistan sits in the remains of his house after a drone attack in January 2006 (Photo: Tariq Mahmood/AFP/Getty Images) Source: https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com



Funeral for civilian drone victims, North Western Pakistan Source: https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com

Wrapping Images

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A tribesman in North Western Pakistan sits in the remains of his house after a drone attack in January 2006 (Photo: Tariq Mahmood/AFP/Getty Images) Source: https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com

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Endnotes

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Layout options

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Introduction

Inter-regional trade has traditionally received strong support in the European Union for its potential to increase investment, create jobs and build linkages and mutual ties between regions. However, it is widely agreed that commercial needs can not take precedence over human rights, tackling poverty and environmental degradation, and the need for sustainable development. The European Union's own documents assert this: "Within the broad context of EU policy making, coherence is a multidimensional commitment which needs to take place within the overall framework of the EU sustainable development strategy. Non-development policies [trade, agriculture, fisheries, food safety, transport and energy] should respect development policy objectives..." (European Commission, 2005:3).

That is why the European Trade Union Confederation (representing 60 million members from 36 countries) along with more than 200 civil society organisations and social movements from Europe and Latin America are shocked that the EC is prepared to sign deals with Colombia and Peru – which will legitimise a country responsible for the highest levels of assassinations of trade unionists, and exacerbate violations of indigenous rights across the Andes and the Amazon.

If the European Union wants to show that its rhetoric of 'policy coherence' and respect for human rights is more than empty words, it needs to draw the line somewhere and say 'no' to the EU-Colombia/Peru FTAs. At the very least, these agreements must be opened up to a Europe-wide debate by elected politicians, which can be done if these agreements are declared 'mixed agreement'.

Background

After failing to negotiate an Association Agreement on a region-to-region base with the Andean Region, the EU went ahead and negotiated bilateral Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with Peru and Colombia alone. These FTAs would replace the preferential scheme for Colombia and Peru, the General System of Preferences, known as GSP+.

The formal negotiations closed in March 2010 but the agreements are yet to come into force. Once the final texts are initialled by the negotiators, the Commission will submit them to the Council for formal approval. The FTAs will then be submitted by the Council to the European Parliament for its consent1. Furthermore, if the agreements are declared "mixed", national Parliaments of the 27 EU Member States would also need to ratify the agreements. According to the legal services department of the European Parliament, when National Parliaments are consulted, their vote refers to the whole Agreement and not just to the part that is of their competence. Therefore, if one National or local Parliament decides not to ratify, the agreement would not enter into force. Finally, ratification is also needed by the Peruvian and Colombian Congresses. contain provisions that are not part of the common trade policy of the EU: disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (Art.2), a democratic clause (Art.1) and some provisions on environment. The inclusion of these clauses constitutes the legal basis for the agreements to be considered of "mixed" nature. Furthermore, the agreements will have repercussions in areas that are non-commercial, such as public health, essential services, the capacity of States to promote sustainable development and human rights, and therefore National Parliaments should be consulted.

While the legal services departments of the European Commission, European Parliament and the Council have yet to produce legal opinions on the issue, parliamentarians of Germany, UK and Ireland have all presented motions demanding that the agreement with Colombia and Peru be declared mixed and therefore be discussed and put for ratification by their respective national parliaments.

The motion by German MPs insisted on the German Bundestag's right to assess and ratify the FTA between the EU, Colombia and Peru. They called on "the Bundestag to exercise its legislative duty of taking a decision on the ratification of a free-trade agreement between the EU, Colombia and Peru which, rather than dealing exclusively with trade policy, also deals with issues relating to structural, constitutional and human rights policy" (German Bundestag, 2010). In a similar tone, the motion by UK MPs, called on the Government to accept that the EU FTA with Colombia and Peru is a mixed agreement, and therefore "has to be expressly ratified by each member state, including the UK" (UK Parliament, 2010).

The signing of the agreements by the Council and the beginning of the ratification process is likely to take place in 2012, and the conclusion much later. However, the European Commission will almost certainly propose the provisional implementation of the FTAs at the time the European Parliament is supposed to give its consent.

Why civil society, trade unions and many parliamentarians reject the EU-Colombia / Peru FTAs

Trade Unions from Colombia and Europe, including the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), as well as civil society organisations from Latin America and Europe have repeatedly presented evidence of the socio-economic and environmental impacts of these FTAs2 and exposed as unacceptable the willingness of the European Union to enter into FTAs with countries where clear abuses of human rights and trade union rights are committed, in some cases with the complicit support of the government3. Furthermore, recently, they have denounced the Colombian government for its attempts to mislead the international community, and the European Parliament in particular, on the advances made by the Santos Administration regarding the situation of human rights.

These FTAs will have serious negative socio-economic and environmental impacts

The European Commission argues that the agreement is a good deal

because it requires ambitious commitments from all sides. It assumes that EU, Colombia and Peru are equal partners, yet there are huge asymmetries between the EU on one side and Colombia and Peru on the other. For example, the gross national income (GNI) per capita of the EU is 3.3 times the GNI per capita of Colombia and 3.6 times the one of Peru4. According to the EU-Andean Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA, 2009: 24, 27), "by 2000, it was estimated that 45 percent of children in Colombia live in poverty. High income inequality and demographic transitions are among the most significant factors that help to explain this pattern". The report also noted that "widespread inequality was observed in terms of income, poverty rates and most related social indicators (for instance, access to healthcare and educational services)".

The Colombian Federation of cattle farmers has warned that by signing the FTA, 400 thousand small producers will be bankrupted by the inundation of European milk.

Decreasing these differences among and inside the regions was to be a priority of the negotiations. However, the agreements do not incorporate effective mechanisms that take into consideration the existing wide asymmetries. Rather, they are likely to increase these inequalities. This concern has been expressed by the UN Economic and Social Council that in 2010 referring to Colombia stated:

"The Committee is concerned that bilateral and multilateral trade agreements signed by the State party may affect the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, in particular of disadvantaged and marginalized groups, such as indigenous and Afro-Colombian peoples and persons living in rural areas" (UN, 2010a:3).

Colombia and Peru FTAs with the EU contain provisions related to investment, intellectual property, competition policy, government procurement and services in addition to demands for trade liberalisation. The inclusion of farreaching demands in these areas will require crucial changes in national law and policy in these developing countries. Furthermore, it will likely reduce Colombia and Peru's policy space to promote policies of sustainable and equitable development in these critical areas.

Trade liberalisation will decrease tax income and undermine agricultural sectors in Colombia and Peru

Because import taxes in Peru and Colombia for EU products are higher than EU import taxes, the FTA requires substantially more effort from these Latin American countries in reducing tariffs. As a consequence governments will see large reductions in tax income that they could have otherwise used on social expenditures. In the case of Peru, it is expected a decrease in tariff revenues of 27.8 percent. Furthermore, many domestic sectors will be affected

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Funeral for civilian drone victims, North Western Pakistan Source: https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com

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A tribesman in North Western Pakistan sits in the remains of his house after a drone attack in January 2006



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