



Secret Investor Deals: The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA)

The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) is a 'free market' economic circuit deal between twelve Asian and Pacific-rim countries, that favours wealthy investors' commercial rights over the needs, human rights and aspirations of ordinary people. The TPPA is being negotiated in secret between corporate lobbyists and government representatives from: Australia, Brunei, Chile, Canada, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, the United States, and Vietnam.

Around the world, governments are giving away a level of sovereign power to a global investment class in accordance with the strictures of a strategy known as *new constitutionalism*. This strategy seeks to expand markets by locking in the changes within supra-national jurisdictions, thereby restricting the democratic participation of nationally-based publics.

'New constitutionalism' is embedded into the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA). Armies of professionals, sponsored politicians and elite technocrats are working on what is essentially a *global neo-colonial project* (AKA globalization), which is an economic war framework directed by the super-rich.ⁱⁱ

From the leaked chapters, we know that the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) will:

- Give transnational corporations the capacity to directly sue governments in secret tribunals;
- Allow foreign investment and financial speculation to be even less restricted;
- Undermine protections for labour, while strengthening copyright claims over workforce creativity;
- Roll-back environmental protections written into legislation, regulations, and bylaws;
- Dismantle obligations to treaties that protect general human rights, indigenous rights, and nature;
- Favour anti-competitive cartels of transnational corporations that undermine small-scale producers;
- Allow big pharmaceutical corporations to charge more for medicines;
- Undermine popular dissent by privileging the fiction of investors' 'commercial sovereignty'.

 $^{\rm i} SEE: \ It's \ Our \ Future \ Resources \ Page \ at \ http://www.itsourfuture.org.nz/resources/; \ and \ also: \ TPP \ Watch \ at \ http://tppwatch.wordpress.com/$

"SEE "Code Purple: Whistle Blowing on 'Free markets', the 'Shock Doctrine' and 'New Constitutionalism" at http://snoopman.net.nz/2014/03/10/code-purple/; AND ALSO: A Poorly Understood 'Bargain': How Democracy and the 60s Movements became Orphans in the 'Free Market' Era at http://snoopman.net.nz/2013/08/31/a-poorly-understood-bargain-or-how-democracy-and-the-60s-movements-became-orphans-in-the-free-market-era/

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