

Lobbying and policy press releases



[Cameron must stand up to Europe if he really wants to do business with Africa](#)

As David Cameron meets with presidents and senior business leaders in Africa, he must use the opportunity to encourage Europe to drop complex trade agreements that hamper Africa's ability to trade freely.

18 July 2011

[Don't let business hijack development - a plea to the European Parliament](#)

Traidcraft is calling upon the European Parliament to seize a unique opportunity to protect developing countries from the exploitation of their raw materials.

29 June 2011

[Groceries Code Adjudicator Bill must give power to penalise](#)

The draft Groceries Code Adjudicator (GCA) Bill is a welcome step, but without the power to impose financial penalties the Adjudicator will fail, says international development charity Traidcraft. 25 May 2011

[Protestors demonstrate outside the Foreign Office demanding an end to illegal cotton subsidies](#)

As President Obama begins his state visit to the UK, supporters of African cotton farmers have been demonstrating outside the Foreign Office to protest against illegal subsidies paid to US farmers.

24 May 2011

[Cotton on to injustice this World Fair Trade Day](#)

World Fair Trade Day is here once again (Saturday 14 May). With major preparations underway to mark this annual event, campaigners in the UK and in developing countries are calling on President Obama to end years of illegal subsidies that condemn millions of farmers to poverty.

13 May 2011

[Government's Trade White Paper falls short](#)

(10 February 2011) The Government's latest white paper on trade falls short on new solutions and initiatives in its approach to trading with developing countries. 10

February 2011

[European Union to tell developing countries: give us access to your resources or else](#)

24 January 2011 - The European Union is threatening to take away current trading preferences from developing countries and stockpile valuable raw materials in its attempts to secure natural resources – like cobalt from Zambia and platinum from Zimbabwe – according to a leaked communiqué set to be issued by the European Commission on Wednesday, 2 February

24 January 2011

[People before profit](#)

Broad civil society alliance calls on European Commission to halt EU-India Free Trade Agreement warning against the disastrous impacts on people's livelihoods. 9

December 2010

[EU's new grab for raw materials will increase poverty](#)

The European Union's push to help its companies access raw materials in developing countries will increase poverty, according to a new report released today. 10

November 2010

[FTSE100 company reports reveal inadequacy of Companies Act](#)

The Companies Act has failed to make environmental and social reporting simpler and more effective according to a new report released today by the Corporate Responsibility (CORE) Coalition. 28 April 2010

[Supermarkets' tougher code futile until enforcer in place](#)

From today, (Thursday, 4 February) the 10 largest supermarkets will be subject to an updated code of practice but until an independent ombudsman is in place, the new set of rules will fail to protect suppliers from abusive practices by supermarkets.

4 February 2010

[New publication unveils win – win approach to buying](#)

Achieving positive, long-term trading benefits for purchasers and their developing world suppliers is the focus of a new publication from the Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply (CIPS) and Traidcraft. 21

January 2010

[New Director of Policy for Traidcraft](#)

Paul Spray, currently a Deputy Director at the Department for International Development, is to be Traidcraft's new Director of Policy. 8 January 2010

[International Tea Day: Consumers demand a fair cuppa](#)

UK tea drinkers consume 165 million cups a day. And 66% of UK tea consumers buy Fairtrade or would be in favour of their preferred tea brand converting to Fairtrade, according to a poll commissioned by international development charity Traidcraft. 15 December 2009

[Campaigners lobby Mandelson](#)

Consumer support for a supermarket watchdog culminates today as campaigners gather outside the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills in London. 6

October 2009

[Supermarkets get new rules but no referee!](#)

The Groceries Supply Code of Practice published today (Tuesday 4th Aug) by the Competition Commission sets out rules to govern the behaviour of UK supermarkets – but lacks any measure to enforce them. 5

August 2009

[High Street split over Grocery Watchdog](#)

UK supermarkets are split over plans for a watchdog to monitor and penalise stores which treat suppliers unfairly, a coalition including cross-party MPs reveals today. 20
May
2009

[Supermarkets must sign up – or own up](#)

Supermarkets in the UK should support the proposed grocery watchdog – or admit they have something to hide in the way they treat their suppliers. 28
April

2009

[G20 should halt free trade agreements](#)

Call for a fresh approach towards the global trading system, based upon equity and sustainable development objectives. 30 March 2009

[Shoppers demand supermarket watchdog](#)

Call for Ombudsman over stores abusing suppliers 15 January 2009

[Trade deal poses grave risks for India's workers and poor](#)

A proposed Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between India and the EU poses a real threat to millions of small businesses, workers and farmers, according to a report published today by Traidcraft.

26 September 2008

[Responsible or Reckless: How Do You Rate?](#)

Hardly a week goes by without news of yet another company being brought into disrepute by exposure of unethical practices in their supply chains. To help buyers understand purchasing and supply chain issues in an enjoyable and engaging way, trade development experts Traidcraft have teamed up with purchasing experts The Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply (CIPS) to launch an interactive online supply chain game.

2 September 2008

[Buyers shown how to take the lead](#)

Companies from the retail and oil and gas sectors are among those who will meet next week to debate the latest findings on how to enhance sustainability in supply chains and manage risks effectively.

16 May 2008

[CC final report leaves farmers still facing risks](#)

The Competition Commission inquiry into UK grocery retailing has left small farmers in the developing world still facing “excessive and disproportionate” risks, says one of the country's leading social enterprises.

1 May 2008

[International tea players debate a "fair cup"](#)

The ways in which purchasing practices need to change to protect vulnerable tea farmers and workers was the subject of a lively debate when twelve tea companies and other key players in the tea sector met in London last week. 5

November 2007

[Guide to The Companies Act launched](#)

A new guide to help company directors implement their environmental and social obligations under The Companies Act has been launched today by The Corporate Responsibility (CORE) Coalition. 23

October 2007

[Businesses warn Government not to impose ACP import tariffs](#)

The UK's leading flower importers are among the first companies and trade associations to publicly call for the European Commission to withdraw its threat of increased import tariffs if new trade agreements between European and African Caribbean Pacific (ACP) countries are not in place by the end of the year.

17 October 2007

[Government needs to 'wake up' to fair trade](#)

Traidcraft, the organisation which helped pioneer fair trade in the UK, welcomes the strong support of fair trade in the International Development Committee (IDC) report, released today, and says its findings are a wake-up call to the Government to overhaul its ineffective approach to trade and development. 14
June
2007

[EU using "dirty tactics" to force unfair trade rules on poor countries new report reveals](#)

The European Commission (EC) is using strong-arm tactics to force 76 African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries to sign trade deals that will benefit rich nations at the expense of developing countries, according to a new report by five UK development agencies. 23

May 2007

[The real impact of EPAs](#)

Trade deals now being negotiated between the EU and its former colonies will achieve the opposite of their stated aim of promoting regional economic integration and increasing Africa's regional trade. 14
May
2007

[Campaigners mobilise in London as part of worldwide day of action against Europe's free trade deals](#)

Hundreds of campaigners from across the UK will visit all 26 European embassies in London tomorrow (19 April) to protest against free trade deals being negotiated by the European Union (EU) that could have a devastating impact on millions of the world's poorest people. 18

April 2007

[EU Development Ministers Must Act to Stop Unfair Trade Deals With Africa, say EU NGOs](#)

European Development Ministers meeting in Bonn this week (March 12-13) must act to stop the unfair free trade deals between the EU and countries in Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific (ACP), otherwise millions of people will be locked into poverty, said an informal coalition of European Non-Governmental Organisations, including Oxfam, Traidcraft and WEED today. 12

March 2007

[British MPs to interrogate Mandelson on controversial trade deals](#)

British parliamentarians from the International Development Committee are today on their way to Brussels to demand answers from Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson about controversial trade deals between the EU and groups of the world's poorest countries.

22 January 2007

[Companies Act a move forward to right corporate wrongs](#)

The Corporate Responsibility (CORE) Coalition and the Trade Justice Movement have welcomed the Companies Act, given royal assent this week, as a step forward towards greater corporate responsibility, but warn the new legislation has not gone far enough to ensure that British business will work for people and planet as well as profit. 10

November 2006

[Company law key to tackling poverty, groups tell Blair](#)

PM targeted with open letter as Company Law Bill enters Commons. 6 June 2006

[Poverty alert strains Blair-Mandy ties](#)

A landmark report warning that European free trade deals risk millions of Africans' jobs today threatens to increase tension between UK prime minister Tony Blair and Brussels trade commissioner Peter Mandelson. The report claims vital industries face collapse if poor countries are forced into opening markets to Europe's big business. 29

September 2005