

10 NON-EXEMPLARY EXAMPLES

FROM THE MERCOSUR-EUROPEAN UNION AGREEMENT



CHEAP RAW MATERIALS FOR PRODUCTS WITH HIGH ADDED VALUE



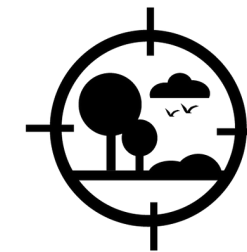
RISKS TO FOOD SAFETY



INCREASED USE AND CONSUMPTION OF PESTICIDES



INCREASED DEFORESTATION IN THE AMAZON, CERRADO AND CHACO



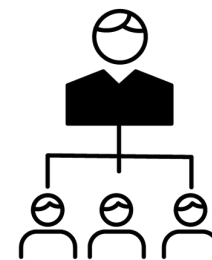
WIDE ACCESS TO NATURAL RESOURCES AND COMPLICITY IN INCREASING ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION



INDIGENOUS LANDS AND TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES UNDER THREAT



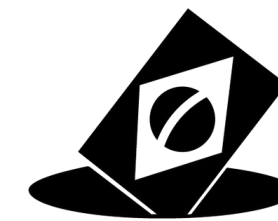
100% TARIFF CUT IN MINING: NEW TRAGEDIES UNDERWAY?



NO STRENGTHENED DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIAL PARTICIPATION



THREATENING CLIMATE AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION



DOOR TO THE FUTURE OR TRAPDOOR TO THE PAST?

1st

NON-EXEMPLARY EXAMPLE

FROM THE MERCOSUR-EUROPEAN UNION AGREEMENT



**CHEAP RAW MATERIALS FOR
PRODUCTS WITH HIGH
ADDED VALUE**

Within a period of up to 15 years, the Agreement will increase quotas, reduce and eliminate both tariff and non-tariff barriers on the main agricultural commodities and minerals exported by Mercosur, such as soybeans, ethanol, iron ore and coffee; and on industrial products exported by the EU, such as cars, machinery and equipment, pharmaceutical and agricultural products.

2nd NON-EXEMPLARY EXAMPLE

FROM THE MERCOSUR-EUROPEAN UNION AGREEMENT



RISKS TO FOOD SAFETY

By not enshrining the EU Precautionary Principle in the chapter on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS), the agreement prevents Mercosur and the EU from banning imports of agricultural products suspected of being contaminated with pathogens, containing residues of banned pesticides or exceeding permitted pesticide residue limits.

3rd

NON-EXEMPLARY EXAMPLE



INCREASED USE AND CONSUMPTION OF PESTICIDES

FROM THE MERCOSUR-EUROPEAN UNION AGREEMENT

The use of extremely harmful pesticides in Mercosur, some of which are banned or not permitted in the EU, gives rise to great concern. The agreement provides for a reduction or complete elimination of tariffs on pesticides, which may lead to increased use and impacts on public health and pollinator mortality. In 2019, 500 million bees died in Brazil in a period of three months due to the use of hazardous active ingredients contained in pesticides.

4th

NON-EXEMPLARY EXAMPLE



**INCREASED
DEFORESTATION IN
THE AMAZON,
CERRADO AND CHACO**

FROM THE MERCOSUR-EUROPEAN UNION AGREEMENT

The EU is currently importing 13 million hectares of soybeans from Mercosur and a mere 13% of them are considered free from deforestation. No mention is made in the agreement of proposed limits on the area planted. Furthermore, beef quotas amounting to 99,000 tons represent a 50% increase compared to current EU imports. It is expected to have a high impact on increased deforestation in these regions.



5th

NON-EXEMPLARY EXAMPLE

FROM THE MERCOSUR-EUROPEAN UNION AGREEMENT

The agreement will exacerbate the attack on Mercosur's natural resources to provide supplies to the European Union. Currently, 2/3 of exports to the European bloc are agricultural raw materials and minerals, the result of activities involving high socio-environmental costs. Reducing and eliminating taxes and increasing export quotas for these resources will increase the EU's complicity and responsibility for the increased environmental degradation and the worsening social crisis in the region.



**WIDE ACCESS TO NATURAL
RESOURCES AND COMPLICITY IN
INCREASING ENVIRONMENTAL
DEGRADATION**



6th

NON-EXEMPLARY EXAMPLE

FROM THE MERCOSUR-EUROPEAN UNION AGREEMENT



**INDIGENOUS LANDS AND
TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES
UNDER THREAT**

Increased pressure on Mercosur's natural resources puts indigenous peoples and traditional communities living in these regions at risk. The absence of indigenous rights protection clauses and the skewed interpretation of the Free, Prior and Informed Consent provided for by ILO Convention 169 put these territories and their peoples at risk.



7th NON-EXEMPLARY EXAMPLE

FROM THE MERCOSUR-EUROPEAN UNION AGREEMENT



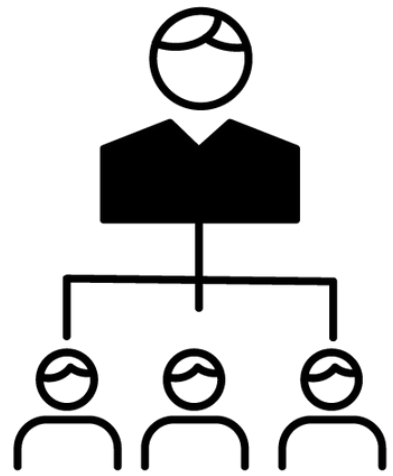
**100% TARIFF CUT IN MINING:
NEW TRAGEDIES UNDERWAY?**

Once it enters into force, the agreement provides for 80% tariff elimination for Mercosur ores. And the remaining 20% will be eliminated within 4 to 10 years. In Brazil, iron ore and kaolin production in particular will benefit, in Argentina it will be both silver and copper. The import of iron ore by EU companies has made them co-responsible for serious human rights violations along their supply chains, as occurred in Brumadinho in 2019.

8th

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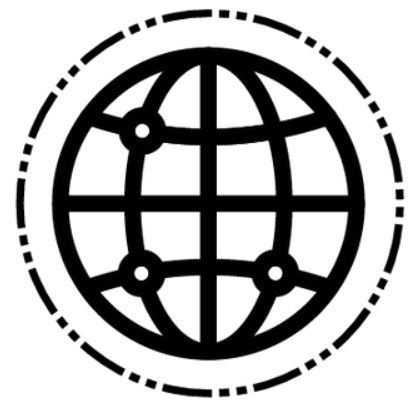
**NO STRENGTHENED DEMOCRATIC
INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIAL
PARTICIPATION**

Civil society and parliamentary bodies are alarmed at the shortcomings of the agreement, such as the absence of legally binding measures to ensure environmental, climate and human rights protection. These gaps are all the more frightening due to a tightening of spaces for democratic participation in Brazil, aggravated by increasing dismantling of legislation and of government institutions responsible for environmental and social protection.

9th

NON-EXEMPLARY EXAMPLE

FROM THE MERCOSUR-EUROPEAN UNION AGREEMENT



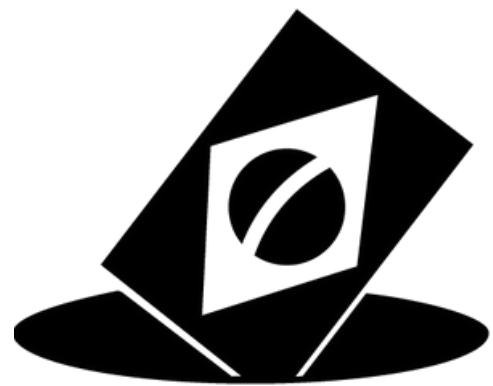
**THREATENING CLIMATE
AND HUMAN RIGHTS
PROTECTION**

The agreement lacks the necessary tools to ensure the protection of the right to land avoiding the tragedy of the anticipated destruction caused by the expansion of exports based on agricultural and mineral raw materials. Agro-industrial production is responsible for the majority of greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest fires, invasion of indigenous territories and traditional communities as well as human rights violations.



10th NON-EXEMPLARY EXAMPLE

FROM THE MERCOSUR-EUROPEAN UNION AGREEMENT



DOOR TO THE FUTURE OR TRAPDOOR TO THE PAST?

The study "EU-Mercosur Agreement: Risks to Climate Protection and Human Rights" by Thomas Fritz shows: The Agreement is unacceptable! In the middle of the 21st century, it reasserts the role of South American countries as perpetual suppliers of cheap raw materials, produced at immense social and environmental costs in return for European industrial products.

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[Click here to](#) access the publication EU-Mercosur Agreement: Threat to the protection of the climate and human rights.

