April 17: Farmers mobilise around the world against Free Trade Agreements and for food sovereignty. Via Campesina wants to express its solidarity and support.

Major Earthquake in Nepal has Caused

Saharan African smallholders are under threat and facing serious challenges as a result of decisions of local and national governments to implement the economic policies of the major powers and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). These decisions are to lower the use of agricultural inputs, especially to increase production and that the solutions of the present are under discussion.

The 6th Congress of CLOC (Coordination of Rural Organizations, CLOC Via Campesina) in Rome (September), declared that policy-makers have to eliminate the peasant from Mother Earth. We are aware of the intentions of governments, multinationals, and the IMF to impose their own agenda to attract far less attention than World Trade Organization negotiations FTAs. These agreements, if finalised, will liberalize trade and investment on the basis of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture, the Dispute Settlement Understanding, and the National Treatment principle.

Agriculture and Food Industry

The implementation of TTIP (Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership) affects Europe's agricultural sector. useContextTo: The European Union (EU) has a strong influence on the agricultural sector through the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and on the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. The CAP is a policy that has been in place since 1962 and includes measures such as price supports, subsidies, and market intervention. The CAP is closely linked to the protection of the environment and biodiversity, as well as to the promotion of sustainable agriculture and rural development.

The EU has also been a key player in international trade negotiations, such as the WTO and the G8. The EU's agricultural policies have been criticized for their impact on developing countries and for their negative environmental effects. The EU has been accused of subsidizing their own farmers while also imported cheaper food from less regulated and sustainable producers. This has had a profound effect on the global food market and has contributed to the increasing prices of food.

Caritas, Malhangalene, Maputo City

The struggle against systematic human rights violations must be, not a fleeting action, but a constant struggle, which must be fought every four years in order to join forces in defence of democratic freedoms for itself and the others, and to take on the world's injustices and the world's adversaries.

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