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The great climate change swindle

PSI comments on the newly released TiSA text that limits state control over natural resources

As Heads of State prepare to negotiate an international accord in Paris against global warming, their trade negotiators are meeting in Geneva to secretly forge a new free trade agreement that could expand fossil fuels' exploitation and cause further climate change.

[Wikileaks released yet another raft of leaked texts](#) from the secretive Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA). [Public Services International](#) (PSI) and [International Forum on Globalisation](#) today released the first known analysis of the proposed Annex on Energy Related Services to inform the COP 21 climate summit.

The 23 TiSA negotiators, from Australia to Switzerland and including the US and the EU, are discussing binding clauses “denying regulators the right to distinguish solar from nuclear, wind from coal, or geothermal from fracking” by establishing the principle of ‘technological neutrality’. The meeting in Geneva – from November 30 to 4 December – will likely continue discussion on the agenda item called “Environmental Services”, discussed in October.

The proposal would “reduce states sovereignty over energy resources – says Victor Menotti, author of the study - by requiring states to establish free markets for foreign suppliers of energy related services thereby removing the right to ensure domestic economic benefits from exploiting energy resources.”

The [European Commission's website trade page](#) says “The EU will seek to end discrimination against foreign suppliers of environmental services. This means removing the existing barriers – not just abstaining from introducing new restrictions.”

“This is the great climate change swindle. As modest targets are being discussed in Paris, in Geneva the means to achieve them are being negotiated away in the interests of the largest corporations on earth,” commented Rosa Pavanelli, PSI General Secretary. “It is becoming clear why our governments try to hide these negotiations by conducting them in secret”.

Pavanelli called on the governments to release the full texts saying “it is a scandal that we rely on Wikileaks to tell us what our governments are doing on our behalf”.

PSI has previously released research showing how the TISA will [stop failed privatisations being brought back into public hands](#), and how it will [limit governments' ability to regulate](#).

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More information:

- Contact: Vittorio Longhi, PSI Communications Advisor, vittorio.longhi@world-psi.org
- [Wikileaks documents](#)
- PSI analysis [“The Free Fracking Agreement – Proposed TiSA Annex on Energy Related Services”](#)