

TPPA circus leaves town

The Auckland round of TPPA talks has come and gone. It was met by a resounding no from kiwis across the country with protests, concerts, art exhibitions, public meetings, workshops, and innumerable discussions over cups of tea. Kia kaha to everyone who made the effort to educate themselves about the TPPA and publicly voice their opposition. This bulletin gives a round-up of press coverage, media releases, and resources from the last 2 weeks. We're saving the discussion of 'what next' for one more bulletin in 2012, then we'll have a short break before launching a new campaign to stop them making a deal by October.

Magazine provides one-stop primer on TPPA

People have been asking for a primer on the TPPA, so we have prepared an online [TPPA booklet](#) that has short, easy access stories about how the agreement could impact on our everyday lives. Thanks to Leigh Cookson for design, the many contributors, and FIRST union for funding the hard copy print run.

Give a TPPA cartoon for Xmas to help us fundraise

A number of the cartoonists generously agreed to have their cartoons auctioned to raise funds for the campaign. The logistics of the auction are now a bit beyond us, so we have decided instead to sell unframed prints of the cartoons for \$30. Those available are by [Mike Moreu \(x 2\)](#), [Claire Frith \(x 2\)](#), [Alex Parsons](#), [Sam Mahon](#), [Hayden Currie \(x 2\)](#), [Treason seditio](#), [Rachel Marsh](#), [Ashley Smith](#), [Valerie Morse](#), [Brendan Parker](#), [Samuel McNaughton](#), Dave McArthur ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), and [6](#)), [Kesia Milne](#), and [Dave Wolland](#). Email itsourfuturenz@gmail.com if you're interested!

Protests say 'no' to TPPA

On December 8 an impressive 250 people gathered in [Nelson](#) express their opposition to the TPPA. In [Auckland](#) (400+) made a powerful display of people power against the TPPA, culminating in the delivery of the Avaaz petition of nearly ¾ million to the NZ host delegation at Sky City. Prominent activist Marama Davidson [addressed](#) the crowd with a Maori perspective on opposition to the TPPA and [Catherine Delahunty](#) gave a hard hitting message from the Greens. As the protest was ending, there were a number of arrests. A complaint has been laid with the [police about provocation](#).

In Wellington 100 protesters marched to Parliament on December 12 to present an open letter to John Key and Tim Groser signed by nearly 1000 New Zealanders via www.itsourfuture.org.nz. The march was met by Catherine Delahunty and Steffan Browning of the Green Party. The Mana Party was also very visible at the Auckland and Wellington TPPA protests.

Wide-ranging New Zealand groups and sectors speak out against the TPPA

[Catherine Delahunty](#) from the Greens, the [Mana Party](#), [NZ First](#), the [Alliance Party](#), and [Democrats for Social Credit](#) have all taken stands against this TPPA this last week.

Greenpeace New Zealand has launched a [petition](#) (which has already attracted nearly 10,000 signatories!) and published this excellent [blog post](#).

From the health sector, the [New Zealand Nurses Organisation](#) and the [New Zealand Medical Students Association](#) spelt out the implications of the TPPA for access to medicines.

Unions in New Zealand and overseas banded to defend workers against the TPPA. The [Maritime Union](#) spoke out strongly, and the NZCTU, the US Teamsters Union, and Australian Manufacturing Workers Union jointly expressed their [deep concerns](#) over the direction of negotiations. [Mexican unions](#) also issued a strong statement opposing their government's decision to join the TPPA negotiations.

The NZCTU [took John Key to task](#) for disingenuously (or at the very least, incompetently) projecting \$3 billion in economic benefits for NZ. This was picked up [very effectively](#) by Russel Norman of the Green Party at question time.

President of New Zealand Actors Equity Jennifer Ward-Lealand delivered [this presentation](#) on the impact of the TPPA on the New Zealand culture sector at an Auckland event organised by It's Our Future to award the [prizes in](#)

[the cartoon competition](#) and launch the exhibition.

New Zealand science blogger Peter Griffin wrote an entry on [what the TPPA means for science](#).

Public opinion strongly against key aspects of the TPPA

In the past two weeks three ConsumerLink polls have confirmed overwhelming public opposition to key planks of the TPPA:

On [secrecy](#), 65% of New Zealanders think the contents of the agreement should be made public before the negotiations are completed and any deal is signed; only 14% of those surveyed said they didn't mind if the text was not disclosed.

On the [environmental impacts](#), 61% of those surveyed reject the concept of foreign investors having any ability to sue the government offshore if it sets stronger environmental standards.

On the [investors-rights to sue](#), 64% of respondents said New Zealand should reject treaties with these clauses, and just 13% said we should sign them. 24% were unsure. See also the [AFTINET release](#) on this poll.

TPPA on the radio

The good people at Auckland's 95bfm conducted interviews from 3-7 December focussing on different elements of the TPPA. The interviews are available online with: [Maira Sutton](#) of Electronic Frontier Foundation; [Krista Cox](#) of Knowledge Ecology International; TPPA cheerleader (of the NZ-US Council); Australian public health expert [Deborah Gleeson](#); tobacco control advocate [Mary Assunta Kolanthai](#); [Jane Kelsey](#).

Assessments of, and reflections on, the Auckland negotiation round

- [Open Media](#)
- [Australian Digital Alliance](#)
- [TVNZ](#)
- [Three news](#)
- [Electronic Frontier Foundation](#)
- [Knowledge Ecology Online](#)
- [AFTINET](#)
- [Radio NZ](#)
- [Gordon Campbell](#) at Scoop.co.nz (this is an excellent write-up)

Various op-eds and interviews

- Rod Oram: [On trade, the Prime Minister is singing off-key](#)
- David Cooke: The TPPA: [Corporate Control on Steroids](#)
- Gordon Campbell on [Tim Groser's 'political projectile vomiting' about the TPP](#)
- Citizen A: 3 part series with Bomber Bradbury and Jane Kelsey with [Lori Wallach](#); [Mike Dolan \(US Teamsters\)](#); [Selwyn Manning](#) (video interviews)
- Triangle TV Interview: [Lori Wallach](#)
- Briar Mannering: [Put NZ's health before interests of big pharma](#)
- Jane Kelsey: [Secret talks breed scepticism](#)
- Russell Brown: [You down with TPP?](#) and [Media3](#)
- Check out also these articles by [Maira Sutton](#) and [Deborah Gleeson](#) condemning the secrecy of the Auckland negotiation round.

Please share TPPA activities or good articles:

Contact Stephen Parry stephenparry1985@gmail.com; Facebook page [ItsOurFutureNZ](#); and website www.itsourfuture.org.nz