

# Green Party MEPs working for

## Alternatives to Globalisation

We are often told that economic globalisation is 'inevitable' – the Green Party's MEPs have shown this is not true.

Green Party MEPs have worked for radical reform of the rules governing world trade, taking their fight to the heart of decision-making, the World Trade Organisation, from Seattle to Cancun. They have promoted genuinely fair trade, for workers in the rich and the poor world alike; and they have opposed the so-called 'free trade' agenda of global big business, banks and bureaucrats, which takes power away from ordinary people.

The Green Party's MEPs have worked to drive forward the alternative to economic globalisation – localisation and fair trade – and have also supported local, democratic control of the economy.

Right: Caroline Lucas joins
Trade Justice Movement
campaigners lobbying
Parliament to make world trade
rules fair.



JEAN LAMBERT Green Party MEP, London CAROLINE LUCAS Green Party MEP, South East England





## Green Party MEPs – speaking out

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Above right: Jean Lambert joins comedian Mark Thomas demonstrating against a proposed BP oil pipeline taking Black Sea oil to the western world across Turkey, Georgia and Azerbaijan.

Below: Caroline Lucas demonstrates with Oxfam campaigners in Reading, before taking the message 'Stop Dumping on Poor People' to the WTO trade talks in Cancun.



### Attacking trade injustice

Caroline Lucas represented the European
 Parliament at the World Trade
 Organisation (WTO) meetings in Seattle,
 Doha and Cancun. She condemned the
 hypocrisy of rich countries forcing open the
 markets of developing countries and called
 for the WTO to be replaced with an new
 organisation which prioritises trade justice.



- Green MEPs have argued for a legal framework for corporate social responsibility. Jean Lambert has told the European Parliament that textiles manufacturers across Europe are relocating factories outside the EU to take advantage of poor labour standards.
- Both MEPs submitted a joint response to the EU consultation on the General
  Agreement on Trade in Services warning that the process was undemocratic and
  would lead to further exploitation of the developing world. Jean published a report
  explaining the likely negative impact on public services, mobilising local action.
- Jean Lambert continues to campaign against the exploitation of the developing world's oil resources as part of the Baku-Ceyhan pipeline campaign.

#### Relocalising our economies

- Caroline Lucas co-authored a report on 'relocalising' our economies supporting indigenous goods and services can creating vibrant and diverse local economies.
- Caroline has called for a global 'Alliance for Self-Reliance' in agriculture, to relocalise food supply and stop the spread of diseases like avian flu and Foot and Mouth.
- Caroline Lucas co-authored a number of reports on Local Food, demonstrating farreaching benefits of initiatives such as organic box schemes and farmers' markets.
   She has toured farmers' markets in the South East to support small farmers against the power of the supermarkets.

#### Fair finance

- Both MEPs have demanded that rich countries Drop the Debt of poorer nations and have taken part in mass lobbies of Parliament with the Trade Justice Movement.
- Caroline Lucas has been at the forefront of opposition to the Euro, defending national control of interest rates and public spending by saying 'Yes to Europe, No to the Euro'.
- Jean Lambert, as a member of the European Tax Justice Network, is challenging the future of tax havens.
- Jean Lambert hosted the first EU-wide NGO meeting to challenge the undemocratic use of export credit guarantees.

#### Supporting local, internationalist democracy

- Caroline Lucas is a key figure in the Vote 2004 coalition, calling for a UK referendum on the proposed EU Constitution.
- Caroline Lucas published a report calling for a far reaching review of EU objectives, away from free-market obsession and towards sustainable development, to 'reconnect' the EU's institutions with its people.