

Trade Rules

We in Europe and Amjac are exhausting our land of raw materials, so we need more stuff from others, preferably cheaply. Competition has created efficient production in agriculture and industry (as long as the energy is available.) We have far more goods than customers for them. We need to open more markets.

Through world trade treaties we are making rules that prevent the protection of Majority World farmers and small businesses by their governments.

Europe and Amjac have been encouraging this model of development for poorer nations: money borrowed to electrify factories and build export roads is paid off by exporting cash crops and raw materials. This prevents growth of broad, complex local economies based on many different kinds of goods and services.

Competing with other poor nations drives down the price of the cash crops being exported. Protecting workers and the environment creates extra costs which corporations that need to be competitive will not pay.

The wealthiest 10% in Amjac (US, Japan and Canada) own:

- 91% of all businesses,
- 82% of all stocks,
- 63% of all assets,
- 69% of all net worth.

Imagine yourself in that top ten percent (maybe you are). Isn't it natural to want to hold and better all that you have?

The most natural course would be to makes rules that enable you to keep and increase your wealth.

Is there anything wrong with that?

Corporations are golden pipelines that bring us goods.

66% of world trade is between Europe and Amjac, 66% of that is within companies. A high percentage comes from Free Trade zones which don't feed into local economies.

Five or fewer corporations dominate (control more than 60% of each market) mining, shipping, design, manufacture, packaging and advertising, music and movie-making globally.

Corporations control 75% of commodities, 80% of technology and hold 40% of world cash. The top 12 corporations average \$125 billion per year in income. Fifty corporations are among the biggest 100 economies, ahead of about 130 nations.

Here in Canada:

International trade is an important quarter of our \$700 billion economy. Resources (including agriculture) and manufacturing are 25% of our economy. They need other countries to buy what they make. The rest of the Canadian economy, 75%, is created by Canadians for Canadians. Public and private services and construction have little or no need to export.

Jim Stanford

