

DRAFT PROGRAM MARCH 30

THE NEW SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

A conference organized by the Julien Studley Graduate Program in International Affairs Shifting Social Contracts

Rules, Rights and Resistance:

The battle over the TPP and TTIP Mega-regional “Trade Agreements”

April 28-29, 2016

**The New School, The Auditorium
66 W12th street, New York City**

Co-sponsored by the Julien J. Studley Graduate Program in International Affairs, The New School, with support from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, and Center for Public Scholarship, The New School.

Cast as “trade agreements”, a momentous re-writing and consolidation of the basic rules governing the global economy is being pursued across the globe. At play is much more than “trade”. Driven by commercial interest and industry associations, the rules in these agreements - like the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP), and TransAtlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) - cover core elements of politics and economics, including investment, dispute resolution, intellectual property, public procurement policy and much more. As such, they can both re-shape and lock-in the reach and power of multinational corporations; the lines between public and private; the role and efficacy of governance globally and nationally; and the enormous power imbalances among classes, regions and countries. Done in secrecy, they threaten to undermine hard-won basic citizen rights - to open government, access to justice, livelihoods and a stable and healthy environment.

Bringing together noted academics and advocates, “Rules, Rights and Resistance” presents a day long exploration of what is at play in the struggle over “trade agreements”: what they portend, the resistances they have generated, and the horizons for rewriting and implementing alternative rules.

April 28, 6.30 - 8pm

Kellen Auditorium, 66 Fifth Ave

Pre-conference film showing:

***Fire in the Blood*, followed by conversation with Jamie Love
(Knowledge, Ecology International)**

April 29

All sessions: The Auditorium, 66 W12th street, 1st floor

I: Framing

9.00 - 9.30 Opening

Conveners and New School President, David Van Zandt

9.30 - 11.00 Session 1: Re/framing

What are “trade” agreements? From trans-borders movement of goods and services to sweeping rules in a globalized world. How are they made, and in whose interest? What are the stakes? If not “trade”, what? Towards a new vocabulary and alternatives.

Moderator: Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, The New School

Joseph Stiglitz, Columbia University

Greg Grandin, New York University

Sanya Reid Smith, Third World Network

II. Digging Deeper

11.00 - 12.30 Session 2: Economy and Labor

What are the economic arguments for “trade agreements”? What are the counter arguments? What have we learned from NAFTA onward about the impact on wages, power and worlds of work? What do we make of the labor content in trade agreements, and what are the alternatives?

Moderator: Will Milberg, The New School

Alan Cafruny, Hamilton College

Dean Baker, Center for Economic and Policy Research
Celeste Drake, AFL-CIO

12.30 - 1.30 Lunch break

1.30 - 3.00 Session 3: Health and Food

What are the implications of “trade” agreements on public health including food and nutrition? How are power asymmetries among stakeholders within and among countries shaping the intellectual protection provisions in TPP/TTIP? What will be the consequences for public health? Do the new “trade” agreements represent continuity or change? What is the place for health in “trade” agreements, and for “trade” in global health norms and institutions?

Moderator: Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, The New School

Tim Wise, Tufts University

Amy Kapczynski, Yale Law School

William New, Intellectual Property Watch

3.00 - 4.30 Session 4: Environment and Climate

Human societies are rapidly breaching planetary boundaries, driven by capitalism. How do “trade agreements” impede or facilitate policies to arrest these trades, and set us on a new path? What is the place for environment in “trade” agreements, and for “trade” in environmental agreements? Towards a new vocabulary for “trade and environment”.

Moderator: Tom Kruse, Rockefeller Brothers Fund

Frank Ackerman, Synapse Energy

Kevin Gallagher (via video), Boston University

Ilana Solomon, Sierra Club

Bill McKibben (via video), 350.org

III: Democracy, Resistance and Rewriting the Rules

4.45-6.00 Concluding session

From the perspective of citizen engagement and democracy, how are we to understand “trade agreements”? How has collective citizen action, nationally and globally, been able to resist and rewrite “trade” rules in the past, and what are the implications for the present as we address new “trade” agreements?

What movements are at play today? What are the core elements of new rules for a fairer, sustainable world? What are the prospects for moving from resistance to rewriting the rules?

Moderator: Everita Silina, The New School

Lori Wallach, Public Citizen

Celso Amorim, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Brazil