

Stop the Trade Robbery

Make Poverty History

Make Trade Fair



Jens Galschiot's sculptures displayed in Hong Kong:

Mad Cow Disease: A pair of scales, 8 metres high. On the one arm a dead cow is hanging by its legs, on the other a number of Africans (in copper). A symbol pinpointing that the rich world is spending five times the amount of their development aid to subsidise their own agriculture.

Survival of the Fattest: A huge fat woman from the West sitting on the shoulders of a starved African man. The 3.5 metres high sculpture epitomises the imbalanced distribution of the world's resources, preserved by a biased and unjust world trade.

Hunger March: Twenty copper sculptures of starved children. The March will appear as a mobile manifestation in the many demonstrations during the WTO summit.

Inverted Robin Hood

Many rich countries regard themselves as altruistic to the poor. But the altruism is inverted Robin Hood. Our applauded free trade is full of restrictions in defence of our privileges, while many developing countries are kept in misery. Due to the insane trade regime we are filling our pockets while ripping off the world's poorest people.

Obviously something is wrong when European farmers receive \$2 every day in subsidies for each piece of dairy cattle, while half of the world's population live of less than that amount, daily.

Small sized farmers in many developing countries can no longer sell their products on their local markets because of the subsidised goods from the EU and US. To make things worse, the EU and US urge the developing countries to further open their markets for the rich countries. The subsidised production and export from the rich countries cause trade stagnation for developing countries and keep them in positions as aid receivers and not as trade partners.

The developing countries need favourable conditions when selling their products to achieve the capital needed for development. The EU must cut the agricultural subsidies and the high import tariffs, which keep the poor out of the market.

Moreover, the EU must stop dumping surplus production in the developing countries. Otherwise we cannot talk about fair trade.

Make Poverty History

The WTO meeting can change things. World trade is up for negotiation. Fair trade would allow millions of people in the third world to work themselves out of poverty. But the rich countries need to be exposed to a massive pressure. That is why we are here and that is why the WTO is important.

We have come to Hong Kong with a sculptural outcry to pinpoint the madness of subsidies and the wealthy countries' hypocrisy.

A cow being slaughtered for art purposes makes some people upset. But the fact that people are dying of poverty every day has in a grotesque manner become part of normality in today's world order. We are all equal and have the right to live a good life – some people just seem more equal than others. That is why we should be upset.

As citizens in this world we have the responsibility to protest and to keep working for a different agenda. To act! To put pressure on the governments, create debate in the media, secure NGO presence in every relevant body, discuss with friends and family and make sure that global issues like fair trade are part of the curriculum in the schools.

First of all we have to start thinking and not be upset about the cow that ended its life as a piece of art. Be upset about the starving people in the other end of the scales instead.



Our simple wish:

- People on top of the agenda, not profit
- Developing countries as trade partners not aid receivers

Demands:

- Stop forcing the liberalisation process in the poor countries
- Cut agricultural subsidies and open the markets in the North
- Stop the dumping of subsidised goods

Stop the Trade Robbery is a campaign in MS, targeting mainly the agricultural policy in the EU and its implications for developing countries. The campaign is based on activism and happenings from MS volunteers seeking to influence both the general public and the decisionmakers in Denmark, the EU and the WTO. Read more at www.ms.dk/WTO (+45) 60605831.

Jens Galschiot's art manifestations fan discussions on ethics and values. Best known are My Inner Beast (European cities in 1993) and the Pillar of Shame (Hong Kong, Mexico and Brazil). The projects are financed through sale of Galschiot's bronze sculptures to art collectors all over the world. He has a huge industrial area in Odense, Denmark with bronze foundry, gallery and workshop. Photos of all Jens Galschiot's sculptures: <http://sculptures.aidoh.dk>

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A campaign by the Danish Association for International Cooperation (MS) www.ms.dk/WTO and Jens Galschiot, artist.

Info, video and free photos about this happening: www.aidoh.dk/WTO

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