

Chancellor Christian Kern, AUSTRIA
Prime Minister Charles Michel, BELGIUM
President Francois Hollande, FRANCE
Chancellor Angela Merkel, GERMANY
Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras, GREECE
Prime Minister Matteo Renzi, ITALY
Prime Minister António Costa, PORTUGAL
President Andrej Kiska, SLOVAKIA
President of the Government Miro Cerar, SLOVENIA
Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy, SPAIN

17 May 2016

To the attention of:
Prime Minister Matteo Renzi

Dear Prime Minister Renzi,

RE: The Financial Transactions Tax (FTT) – the Time is Now

We, the undersigned, coalitions of civil society organisations and trade unions representing many millions of European citizens, acknowledge your combined efforts over 5 years to agree an international FTT.

In the wake of the leaks of the Panama Papers, efforts to clean up the financial sector must be accelerated, and the FTT is an important element of Europe's approach to this problem. In addition to raising substantial revenue to protect jobs and public services in Europe, and help combat poverty, pandemics and climate change in the wider world, the FTT would provide tax authorities with a clearer picture of the ownership of financial assets, helping in the fight against fraud and other crimes. Furthermore, the FTT raises revenue from precisely those institutions doing so much to enable the use of tax havens: the big banks.

The stage is set for an historic announcement in June. The FTT is hugely popular with the general public, and you have a clear opportunity to put the welfare of Europe's citizens – and indeed of the poorest around the world – ahead of the interests of the financial sector.

Our message to you is that the *Time is Now* for the FTT.

The technical analysis has been completed, what is now required is political agreement. We were profoundly disappointed that you were unable to reach a resolution by last year's December deadline. The fruits of your endeavours must be realised in June, the new deadline that you have committed to. Agreement would be greeted as a remarkable step forward that sets the lead for other countries to follow. Any further delay would be deeply unpopular.

Make history, make the FTT happen now!

Yours sincerely,

EUROPEAN FTT COALITIONS

1. Austria: On behalf of a **broad coalition of 127 civil society organisations:**

Heinz Hödl – Director KOO-Coordination Office of the Austrian Bishop's Conference for Development and Mission

Annelies Vilim – Director, Global Responsibility, Austrian Platform for Development and Humanitarian Aid

Alexandra Strickner – Chairperson, ATTAC Austria

2. Belgium: On behalf of a **broad coalition of 150 civil society organisations and over 25,000 volunteers:**

Arnaud Zacharie – General Secretary, CNCD-11.11.11

Stefaan Declercq – General Secretary, Oxfam Belgium

Eric Goeman – Spokesperson, ATTAC Flanders

Bogdan Vanden Berghe – Director, 11.11.11

3. Denmark: On behalf of the **Danish Robin Hood Coalition consisting of 12 member organisations:**

Lars Koch – IBIS, Director of Programmes & Influence

4. Finland: On behalf of a **Platform of 318 development NGOs**

Timo Lappalainen – Executive Director, KEPA (the national platform for Finnish development NGOs)

5. France: On behalf of **French NGOs and citizens supporting the French Robin Hood Tax Campaign:**

Claire Fehrenbach – Executive Director, Oxfam France

Hakima Himmich – President, Coalition PLUS

6. Germany: On behalf of the **'Steuer gegen Armut' campaign supported by 99 civil society organisations:**

Detlev v. Larcher – Steering Committee, Attac Germany

7. Ireland: On behalf of the **Claiming our Future FTT campaign, supported by 42 Civil Society Organisations:**

Niall Crowley – Convener, Claiming our Future

8. Italy: On behalf of the **Italian FTT coalition (60 organisations):**

Leonardo Becchetti – Spokesperson, ZeroZeroCinque

ACLI, ActionAid Italia, Adiconsum, Adiconsum Basilicata, Altromercato, Amref, ARCI, ARCS, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, ATTAC Italia, Associazione di Comunità, Azione Cattolica, Banca Popolare Etica, CGIL, CINI -Coordinamento Italiano Network Internazionali, CIPSI, CISA - Comitato Italiano per la Sovranità Alimentare, CISL, CISP, Cittadinanzattiva, Gruppo Cooperativo Goel, Cooperazione Internazionale Piamartina – SCAIP, COOPI, CVX Italia, Daquialà, Dokita, Economia Alternativa, Equociquà, Fa' La Cosa Giusta, Fairwatch Italia, FIRST CISL, FIRST SOCIAL LIFE - Cisl, Flare, FOCSIV, FCRE- Fondazione Culturale Responsabilità Etica, GCAP - Coalizione Italiana Contro la Povertà, Le Rondini, Legambiente, Lega Missionaria Studenti, LeG - Libertà e Giustizia, Lunaria, Mani Tese, Mag4 Piemonte, Mag Verona, MASCI – Movimento Adulti Scout Cattolici Italiani, Medici con l'Africa - CUAMM, Microdanisma, OISG – Osservatorio Italiano sulla Salute Globale, Oxfam Italia, RE:Common, Reorient, RTM – Reggio Terzo Mondo, Save the Children, Sbilanciamoci!, Social Watch Italia, UIL, Un ponte per, Volontari Terzo Mondo – Magis, WWF Italia e Osservatorio Italiano sull'Azione Globale contro l'AIDS

- 9. Portugal:** On behalf of the **Portuguese Platform of 66 Development NGOs:**
Pedro Krupenski – Chair of the Board, Plataforma Portuguesa das ONGD
- 10. Slovakia:** On behalf of the **Platform of 30 Slovak NGOs:**
Lenka Nemcova – Executive Secretary, Slovak NGDO Platform
- 11. Spain:** On behalf of **La Plataforma ITF ¡YA!, Paraísos fiscales ¡NO! Supported by 14 CSOs + La Alianza Española por la Tasa Robin Hood, supported by 11 CSOs+ Plataforma Justicia Fiscal supported by 10 organisations, including three platforms:**
Ricardo García Zaldívar – Spokeperson, Attac España
Vanessa López – Executive Director, Salud por Derecho
Miguel Gorospe – Coordinator, Campaña Justicia Fiscal
- 12. UK:** On behalf of the **Robin Hood Tax campaign, a coalition of 115 UK organisations:**
David Hillman – Director, Stamp Out Poverty / Robin Hood Tax Steering Group

OTHER NETWORKS/COALITIONS

- 1. Action For Global Health (AfGH)** – a European CSO network representing over **30 NGO members** and national health platforms in **6 European countries and the EU**
Tim Roosen, Coordinator
- 2. Arbeiterkammer Österreich (AK Europe)** – representing **3,4 million members** in Austria
Rudi Kaske, President
- 3. Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe** – representing **130 member organisations**
Wendel Trio, Director
- 4. CIDSE** – representing **17 Catholic Development organisations** in Europe and North America
Bernd Nilles, Secretary-General
- 5. European Anti-Poverty Network** – representing more than **6,000 civil society organisations** across Europe
Fintan Farrell, Director
- 6. European ATTAC Network (EAN)** – representing **20 organizations in 20 countries**
- 7. European Federation of Food, Agriculture and Tourism Trade Unions (EFFAT)** – defending more than **22 million workers** and representing **120 national trade unions** from **38 European countries**
Harald Wiedenhofer, General Secretary
- 8. European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)** – representing **8 million European workers**
Jan Willem Goudriaan, General Secretary
- 9. European Trade Union Congress (ETUC)** – representing **45 million members** of **89 trade union organisations** in 39 European countries, and 10 European Trade Union Federations
Luca Visentini, General Secretary

10. Friends of the Earth Europe (FOEE) – representing **more than 30 national organisations** and thousands of local groups

Magda Stoczkiewicz, Director

11. Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) Europe – representing **more than 1,000 organisations** in national coalitions and platforms in 23 European countries

Ingo Ritz, Director of Programs

12. Global Fund Advocates Network (GFAN) – a network that brings together over **240 organisations** from over 70 countries supporting global health

Peter van Rooijen, Executive Director

13. International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) European Region – representing **30 member organisations** in countries in the European Economic Area

Cristina Martins, President

14. International HIV/AIDS Alliance – an alliance of **32 independent civil society organisations**

Marielle Hart, Head of Policy

15. Public Services International (PSI) – representing **20 million members** of **669 unions** in 154 countries and territories.

Rosa Pavanelli, General Secretary