



# Work in the NHS

March 2015/03

## GMB TRADE UPDATE ON EU-US TRADE DEAL (TTIP)

### EU Parliament Socialist Group confirms opposition to investor rights in trade deals

The EU Parliament Socialist Group has adopted with near unanimity its formal position opposing the inclusion of an investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) mechanism in EU trade deals with the US (TTIP) and Canada (CETA).

GMB wrote to Socialist Group MEPs before the vote, urging them to oppose the inclusion of ISDS in all EU trade agreements, and welcomes the decision which meets a key demand of the GMB led TUC 2014 congress motion on TTIP. This letter and more information is available via the following link:

<http://www.gmb.org.uk/about/gmb-in-europe/european-policy-issues/eu-trade-and-ethical-trading>

GMB has been at the forefront of raising concerns about the ISDS mechanism because it gives corporate investors unprecedented rights to sue democratically elected public and government authorities who legislate in public policy interest where they claim this interferes with their right to make profits. An example of this is Veolia suing the Egyptian government for raising the minimum wage and Philip Morris suing the Australian Government for restricting tobacco advertising.

ISDS in combination with poor protection of public services in trade agreements would make it impossible for us to protect the NHS and other vital public services and return privatised services back in to public service. The UK government and EU Commission officials claim this is not under threat, but they know that it is.

With the US government pushing for ISDS, the S&D position means that reaching final agreement and ratification of the TTIP trade agreement will now become much more difficult.

GMB also welcomes the Socialist Group commitment to opposing ISDS in the CETA agreement, which is currently being legally checked before it will go to the European Parliament for adoption. GMB urges MEPs to vote the agreement down, believing that the modifications currently being made to the ISDS provisions in that text are insufficient. We also have other concerns about the labour and regulatory standards and public service protections in that text.

GMB also calls on MEPs to turn their focus to another EU trade agreement with Singapore which is nearing completion and to insist that the ISDS mechanism in that agreement is removed, or oppose the agreement.

### ALL NHS WORKERS CAN GET INVOLVED

Joining the GMB is easy, quick and fast. You or your colleagues can join via one of the following methods:

1. Online at [www.gmb.org.uk/join](http://www.gmb.org.uk/join)
2. Complete the GMB application form and post to Freepost RSTL-ULCH-JBET, GMB, 22 Stephenson Way, London NW1 2HD.
3. Ring 020 8971 4268 and ask for the GMB NHS Sector.
4. Email [nhs@gmb.org.uk](mailto:nhs@gmb.org.uk) asking for a membership form.
5. Ask the GMB to visit your workplace and work colleagues. Email [nhs@gmb.org.uk](mailto:nhs@gmb.org.uk) and arrangements can be made to have a face to face meeting.

Ensure your membership details are correct by registering with GMB online: <https://www.gmb.org.uk/login>

### Why Join GMB?

GMB is Britain's fastest growing trade union. GMB is a campaigning trade union; its job is to get the best deal for GMB members at work and is committed to building a strong organisation in every GMB workplace, and so help make every workplace safer. Whoever you are, wherever you work, joining GMB is the right decision.

### GMB Membership Subscriptions:

**1<sup>st</sup> October 2014 rates for GMB membership will be as follows.**

Full time- Grade 1 = £2.80 per week  
(£12.14 per month)

Part time - Grade 2 = £1.65 per week  
(£7.15 per month)

Join online at [www.gmb.org.uk/join](http://www.gmb.org.uk/join)





# GMB—EXPERTS IN THE WORLD OF WORK

It can be as simple as a new manager, or a new way of working that causes you a problem at work. Guard against that day by joining GMB now. GMB membership covers you wherever you work. Only GMB members get GMB help. **IF YOU WORK YOU NEED GMB@WORK**

Join now at [www.gmb.org.uk/join](http://www.gmb.org.uk/join) or fill in the form below then hand it to your local GMB representative, or post it—simply write FREEPOST GMB on an envelope—you don't need a stamp or any other address details. If you have any questions contact GMB: email [info@gmb.org.uk](mailto:info@gmb.org.uk) or visit our website [www.gmb.org.uk](http://www.gmb.org.uk)

FOR GMB USE ONLY	Section <input type="text"/>	Branch number <input type="text"/>	Membership number <input type="text"/>	Date of joining <input type="text"/>
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## GMB membership application form PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

### 1 TELL US ABOUT YOU

Surname <input type="text"/>	First name <input type="text"/>	Title Mrs./Miss./Ms./Mr <input type="text"/>	Date of birth <input type="text"/>
Home address <input type="text"/>	Postcode <input type="text"/>	Home phone number <input type="text"/>	Mobile number <input type="text"/>
Email <input type="text"/>			
We ask for your ethnic origins as part of our equal opportunities policy of improving services to all members Bangladeshi <input type="checkbox"/> / Black African <input type="checkbox"/> / Black Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> / Black British <input type="checkbox"/> / Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> / Indian <input type="checkbox"/> / Irish <input type="checkbox"/> / Pakistani <input type="checkbox"/> / White <input type="checkbox"/> / Other <input type="text"/>			
National Insurance number <input type="text"/>	I agree to abide by GMB rules <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Signed <input type="text"/>
			Date <input type="text"/>

### 2 TELL US ABOUT YOUR JOB

Employer <input type="text"/>	Your job <input type="text"/>
Address where you work <input type="text"/>	Postcode <input type="text"/>
How many hours a week do you work? <input type="text"/>	Pay number <input type="text"/>
Work phone number <input type="text"/>	Pay date <input type="text"/>

### 3 PLEASE SELECT WHEN YOU WOULD LIKE THE DIRECT DEBIT TO BE DEDUCTED FROM YOUR ACCOUNT

If you are paid monthly	<input type="text"/> 1st day of the month*	<input type="text"/> 15th day of the month*	<input type="text"/> Last day of the month*	* or next working day
OR if you are paid 4 weekly	<input type="text"/> 1st Friday	<input type="text"/> 2nd Friday	<input type="text"/> 3rd Friday	<input type="text"/> 4th Friday

### 4 INSTRUCTION TO YOUR BANK OR BUILDING SOCIETY TO PAY BY DIRECT DEBIT

Please fill in the form below and send to: GMB, 22 Stephenson Way, LONDON NW1 2HD	Service User Number <input type="text"/>
Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society branch To the Manager of <input type="text"/> Bank/Building Society Address <input type="text"/> Postcode <input type="text"/>	Instructions to your Bank or Building Society: Please pay GMB Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assumed by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with GMB and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.
Name(s) of account holder(s) <input type="text"/>	Signature(s) <input type="text"/>
Bank/Building Society account number <input type="text"/>	Bank/Building Society Sort Code <input type="text"/>
Banks or Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account	Reference number (GMB use only) <input type="text"/>