

Draft Resolution

1 Tabled by LMP – Hungary

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4 **The EGP opposes CETA**

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7 **Introduction**

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9 The European Green Party's position paper on the planned Transatlantic Trade and Investment
10 Partnership (TTIP) states that the agreement is based on unrealistic economic promises, constitutes an
11 assault on democracy and threatens to weaken EU standards. Therefore the position paper declares that
12 it is the European Greens' goal to defeat this TTIP agenda. This position paper, however, only mentions
13 that the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between the European Union and
14 Canada, like TTIP, undermines multilateralism. This resolution aims to make European Greens' opposition
15 to CETA much stronger since CETA is based on the similar reasons of secretive negotiations, an
16 antidemocratic investor-state dispute settlement, the watering down of EU standards and economic gains
17 for corporations and not for people.

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20 **Resolution**

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22 The Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between the European Union and Canada
23 has been negotiated, and is now awaiting ratification at EU level (European Parliament and Council) and by
24 national parliaments. CETA is one in a number of new generation trade agreements that concern
25 themselves not only with tariffs, but also with regulations and regulatory powers, the so-called non-tariff
26 barriers.

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28 1. As a result of the secretive manner in which CETA was negotiated, the agreement's full official
29 text was only shown to the European population once it was completed. European Greens
30 believe this secrecy undercuts democratic values.

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32 2. The secretive document contains a chapter on Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS), which
33 allows for corporations to sue states should their regulations be deemed to cause a loss of profit.
34 The European Greens believe that this form of private justice is contrary to democracy and to the
35 principle of equality under law. Therefore, we demand that no agreement containing ISDS, such as
36 CETA, is ratified, and that no other agreements containing ISDS are negotiated. Non-
37 discriminatory investor protection and redress of grievances must be ensured via state legal and
38 judicial systems, not via private judiciaries.

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40 3. Moreover, the European Greens believe that CETA does not serve the interest of the European
41 people: It threatens to water down public health, food safety and environmental regulations,
42 labour rights and equality under law, instead prioritising corporate interests. Furthermore, it
43 threatens public services. The provision of a so-called "negative list" for the
44 liberalization of services is unacceptable as it amounts to liberalization by
45 default. Even though we believe that trade with Canada can be beneficial to Europe, we think
46 that these benefits should not be detrimental to communities' capacity to control regulations
47 affecting everyday-life, health and safety, or to Canadian and European efforts to lower carbon
48 emission by reducing unnecessary transportation and to generally address the
49 climate crisis.

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- 56 4. Therefore, the European Green Party opposes CETA and believes that the agreement should
57 never come into force. Consequently the European Green Party calls on all Green members of
58 | parliaments and members of the European Parliament to vote against this agreement.