



15th World Congress on Public Health

3-7 April 2017 Melbourne Australia www.wcph2017.com

Trade and investment treaties and public health policy space

Monday 3 April 2017, 1600– 1800, Plenary Hall 2

Lead	Dr Ronald Labonte, University of Ottawa Dr Deb Gleeson, La Trobe University Belinda Townsend, The Australian National University
Speakers	Dr Ronald Labonte, University of Ottawa Dr Deb Gleeson, La Trobe University Belinda Townsend, The Australian National University Louise Delany, University of Otago David Legge, People's Health Movement Martin McKee, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Aims: To understand how 'new generation' trade and investment treaties can affect the policy space for public health regulation, and the differential impacts for developing countries, and to explore how the public health community can respond.

Building upon the workshop on trade and health at the last World Congress in Kolkata, this symposium will provide updated analyses of several large regional trade and investment treaties recently negotiated or under negotiation, including the TPP (semi-officially now a zombie treaty), CETA, PACER Plus, RCEP, TTIP and TiSA. Such agreements extend beyond reducing barriers to trade in goods to include expanded intellectual property rights, private investor rights, trade in services, rules limiting governments' regulatory flexibilities and other provisions that pose public health risks. It is critical that public health workers understand how these treaty rules create these risks, and what can be done to prevent them in the future, or mitigate them in the present. We will explore how public health policy space can be preserved in trade and investment treaties and how outcomes for developing countries can be improved.

