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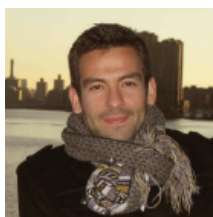
What's new

The Great Rip Off: Anonymous company owners and the threat to American interests



Owners of anonymous companies registered in U.S. states are ripping off innocent people and businesses across America, says a new report by Global Witness. Drawing on 22 cases involving anonymous companies from 27 states, The Great Rip Off shows how fraudsters, mobsters, money-launderers, tax-evaders and corrupt politicians are able to use anonymously-owned American companies to cover their tracks and evade the authorities.

The Road to Addis Ababa



In July 2015, the international community will have the chance to change the future of finance development. Governments, civil society, trade unions and other actors will meet for the third UN conference on Financing for Development (Ffd) in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) to take concrete decisions for the future of development and how to finance it. In the run-up to this crucial meeting, two major reports have been released which are intended to inform the upcoming debates: one from the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Finance and one from the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals. In a recently published article, eurodad's Hernán Cortéz Saenz analyses both of these reports.

G8 New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition Not Supportive of Small-Scale Food Producers



Forum Umwelt
und Entwicklung

On the occasion of the meeting of the Leadership Council of the New Alliance for Food Security in New York, ninety-one civil society organizations from G7/8 member countries have signed a joint statement expressing their strong criticism of the New Alliance initiative. The organizations are demanding that governments of the G7/8 take immediate action to radically reform the New Alliance, citing how changes in agricultural policy and legislation under the New Alliance continue to benefit commercial concerns to the detriment of small-scale farmers. German organizations, in turn, are calling on the German Federal Government to use its Presidency of the G7/8 in 2015 to propose an alternative initiative that focuses on the interests of small-scale farmers in the Global South and supports their contribution to food security through public investment. An amended version of the statement can be found below.

The BEPS Process: Failing to Deliver For Developing Countries

act:onaid ActionAid UK has released a report that outlines why the OECD's base erosion and profit sharing (BEPS) project, which aims to put a halt to tax dodging, will not work to the benefit of poor countries. Three reasons for this are identified: BEPS sidesteps many important issues for poor countries, developing countries are not part of the negotiations around new international tax rules, and the proposed BEPS solutions are weak and in many cases impractical. This report comes in the wake of the OECD's launch of the 2014 BEPS deliverables as part of its Action Plan on BEPS, which has largely been met with criticism from civil society.

Civil Society Organizations argue for enhanced Country-by-Country-Reporting rules

A coalition of 33 European civil society organizations, Global Policy Forum among them, recently submitted a critical contribution to the 'European Commission's consultation regarding the potential economic consequences of country-by-country reporting' (CBCR) under the so-called Capital Requirements Directive IV. The purpose of the consultation is to collect information and obtain input from all interested stakeholders on the potential economic consequences of public disclosure by banks and investment firms of CBCR information. It aims to highlight in particular the effects of CBCR on competitiveness, investment and credit availability, and the stability of the financial system. Overall, the coalition argues that CBCR will have a positive impact on the economy, though they maintain that improvements should still be made.

OWG Report to be “Main Basis” for SDGs in Post-2015 Agenda





The General Assembly agreed on September 10, 2014 that the proposal of the Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) would be the main basis for a concise set of sustainable development goals that will encapsulate a truly transformative post-2015 development agenda. Other inputs, such as the intergovernmental negotiating process at the UNGA's 69th session will also be considered. Japan, the EU and Australia are also encouraging the inclusion of the report of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing (ICESDF) in negotiations on the post-2015 agenda. Although some political issues remain unresolved, these do not challenge the substance of the OWG report as the backbone of consensus.

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