



HOW GLOBALIZATION SPARKS OFF WAR FOR MARKET SHARE, JOBS AND POLITICAL POWER

IS THERE A  
FUTURE FOR WTO?

# STEEL WAR





# WHY A SMALL EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPANY GETS IN DEEP TROUBLE WITH THE GERMAN CAR INDUSTRY JUST BECAUSE PRESIDENT BUSH MUST WIN HIS RE-ELECTION IN WEST VIRGINIA

# STEEL WAR

How should WTO for the XXI<sup>th</sup> century look like?  
Eminent persons give their view.

Economists claim that the globalization of trade creates wealth and thus contributes to the reduction of poverty and unemployment in the world. And yet, no other economical development is under heavier criticism than globalization. The question then is whether we can shape a new world order based on liberalization and opening up markets in such a way that also the poor countries can benefit from it. In fact, rich countries tend to use their economical and political power to secure their interests first, an understandable behaviour but often hypocritical and untrustworthy at the same time. The WTO is in charge to shape a world trade system which should be fair for all members. Is this at all possible? Eminent personalities and leaders like Professor Stiglitz, Susan George, Supachai Panitchpakdi and Juan Somavia express their strong views.

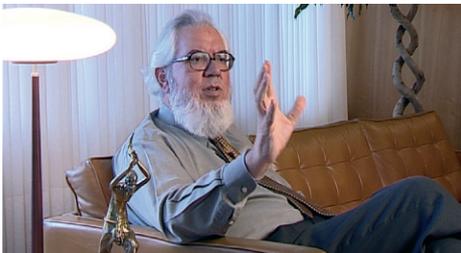


Joseph Stiglitz, Professor for Economics and Finance, Columbia University, New York. Nobel Prize Laureate in Economic Sciences 2001.

The movie shows in a lively but truthful way how the US, under the pressure of the steel workers unions and the steel lobby, started a conflict. President Bush, in need to get the votes from West Virginia to be re-elected, on march 5th 2002, decided to impose safeguard measures to protect the US steel industry from losing more jobs and from sliding into financial difficulties. Literally over night, the US impeded imports from competing steel manufacturing companies of Brazil and other nations. They all got into deep trouble because they couldn't keep their commitments any more. Fights were fought in the WTO arena and the conflict was finally solved, though more by altered market conditions than by formal jurisdiction. And in the end the winners weren't really the winners and the losers weren't really the losers.



Susan George, Globalization critic, Vice President ATTAC France, Paris



Juan Somavia, Director General of ILO International Labour Organization

To illustrate this question the recent steel conflict opposing competing steel producing countries is a very good example: It shows how countries are defending their national interests in a ruthless way, even disregarding their international commitments.



Mark Roach, Senior Executive, ISU Independent Steelworkers Union, Weirton, West Virginia (USA)

So is the criticism of the world trade system justified? Experts give answers to what should be done. Politicians are challenged. Passivity will bounce back to all of us!

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