

## European Incoherent

**European Union shows aggressive commercial interest leaving what they had offered in the first place: Social development, Human Rights and Andean integration.**

The present negotiation with the European Union (the EU) has left the Association Agreement by a bilateral Commercial Agreement: a Free Trade Agreement. The EU has left the integral approach to which it was committed. It included commercial subjects, political dialogue and cooperation with the intention to fortify the Andean integration. At the beginning of the third Round of negotiations between Peru, Ecuador and Colombia and the EU, in Brussels between 4 and 8 of May of the present, the signatory organizations have alerted on the following things:

- **The EU wants to go beyond the FTA with the United States.** The aggressive commercial interests of the EU are expressed in the insistence to negotiate the public liberalization of services, purchases, investments, extension of the protections to the "rights of intellectual property", etc. These subjects already forced Bolivia to exit the negotiations affecting the Andean process of integration. Now Peru, Colombia and Ecuador are exposed to commitments that can have negative consequences. The EU has the USA's agreement as a base and It demands still better conditions for his companies.

- **The EU puts in risk the access to medicines to more than 6.2 million of peruvians.** To accept the proposal of the EU in the matter of intellectual property, extending 5 years the protection of patents and 11 years the protection of test data, would imply an increase in the price of medicines of 34%. That implies an increase in the cost of more than 570 million dollars, which is equivalent to the cost in health of more than 6.2 million of Peruvian. This proposal becomes more serious in the context of the world-wide threat of Swine influenza epidemic that shows the problems for access to medicines that generates the excessive protection of the intellectual property rights.

- **The EU does not offer true opportunities to the agrarian producers.** Europe does not negotiate its millionaire agricultural subsidies and maintain important phytosanitary barriers that prevent the access of Andean products to his market. The offers of cooperation to improve the exporting capacity of the Andean producers have been excluded from the negotiations. In addition, it puts restrictions for the export of the Andean banana, although the WTO has failed against its protectionist policies.

- **The EU resists recognizing the protection of the biodiversity.** The EU does not fear in requesting high protection of intellectual property rights, but it has resistance to fight the biopiracy and the patenting of plants and animals. Also the UE doesn't assume commitments that protect the biogenetic resources of the Andean region and the traditional knowledge of the indigenous people.

- **The EU does not recognize the asymmetries.** It asks to the Andean countries to give better treatment to his investors than the Andean ones and demands to harmonize national norms with UE's standards, which respond to higher levels of development and wealth from developed countries. It also requests the liberalization of the financial services when they are applying strong protectionist policies to face international financial crisis.

- **The EU leaves outside negotiation subjects of migration and human rights.** When the UE removed from the negotiations the pillar of political dialogue, has left outside Andean high-priority interests: like the rights of its migrants workers and the democratic clause. Both are fundamental components for an equitable bilateral relation which must be recognized in the commercial agreements.

- **The EU does not accept new commitments in cooperation.** The aggressive European commercial agenda has forgotten the pillar of cooperation in disregard of the social cohesion approach. In the new negotiations the EU resists to assume new and better commitments in cooperation that could allow true opportunities of development in this commercial relationship. The EU must retake this commitment and include it like a high-priority subject in the negotiations.

Taking into account this whole situation and understanding the context of an international crisis that demonstrates the limits of the market's deregulation model, and which also re-evaluate the regulating and distributing roll of the State, we consider a high-priority task that the Peruvian Government should evaluate the economic insertion's strategy via implementing the FTA. Peru does not have to accept the aggressive proposals of the EU. It must maintain as an axis of his negotiating force the protection and promotion of the rights of citizens to build a model of equitable development.

Lima, 5 of May, 2009

