

General Election 2017: TJM asks and the party manifestos

After the General Election was announced, Trade Justice Movement compiled a set of trade-related asks that we would like to see in each party's manifesto. The full set can be read on TJM's blog [here](#).

Now that the manifestos have been published, the chart below indicates how each measures up. This does not represent an endorsement of any party.

Key:

 = Not discussed/Not met

 = Partially met

 = Largely or fully met

TJM Asks	Conservatives	Green	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Plaid	SNP	UKIP
Legal protections for human rights, labour rights and the environment in post-Brexit trade agreement with EU	Worker/environmental protections will be available "at point we leave the EU"	An EU deal that "safeguards vital rights for people and the environment"	EU workplace and environmental laws fully protected	Liberal Democrats will ensure that everything is done to maintain those high standards	-	Support efforts to maintain current standards and regs	Aim to cut 'unnecessary regulation' from part of economy not linked to trade with EU
Adopt a 'do no harm' and 'do good' approach to international trade outside of the EU	-	Trade rules that respect human rights, labour standards, environmental standards and climate commitments	Ensure that trade agreements cannot undermine human rights and labour standards	Future trade deals require high safety, environmental and animal welfare standards for food imports	Oppose deals where standards compromised, agriculture suffers and health service at risk of privatisation	Calls to consider human rights implications of trade, and to use trade to support development	No trade that harms [other countries'] trade, traditional lifestyles, or natural resources
Use trade as a tool to meet Sustainable Development Goals	Will "continue to use our aid budget in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals"	-	To meet SDGs, Labour guarantee LDCs continued access to the market	Introduce Sustainable Development Goals audits of new trade, investment and development deals	-	Calls for trade that supports development and reduces poverty – but no mention of SDGs	-
No race to the bottom on tax and regulation in the UK to gain competitive advantage internationally	-	-	Oppose 'tearing up regulations' post-Brexit	-	-	Opposes "threatening race to the bottom" on tax, wages and working conditions	Aim is to establish the UK as a low tax, low regulation economy
Align the UK's international trade policies with a domestic industrial strategy	-	-	Integrated trade & Ind. strategy to boost exports, investment & decent jobs	-	-	-	-
Align the UK's international trade policies with the 1.5 degree goal of the Paris Agreement	Will "continue to take a lead in global action against climate change"	Trade rules that respect climate commitments	Trade aligned with commitment to 'low carbon future'	Commits UK to "leadership role in int'l efforts to combat climate change"	-	Multiple commitments to fight climate change and show int'l leadership	Will withdraw from the Paris Agreement
Increase the transparency and democratic accountability according to which the government negotiates new trade agreements	-	Give Parliament a vote on future trade deals	Proper transparency and Parl. scrutiny of all future trade and investment deals	Calls for 'proper parliamentary scrutiny', but not for trade deals specifically	All future free trade deals, must be endorsed by the National Assembly for Wales.	Calls for greater transparency in trade deals, with Scots and UK Parl. having say	-
Remove ISDS from current and future trade agreements	-	-	Labour opposes parallel ISDS systems for multinational corporations	-	-	-	-