



Free our seeds!

International Days of Action

Brussels, 17-18 April 2011

Tens of thousands of people throughout Europe are actively demanding that the right to produce seeds remains in the hands of small farmers and gardeners. A diversity of crops has nourished mankind for thousands of years. Seeds that we have inherited from past generations are the basis of life and are essential for food sovereignty.

The big seed trusts are determined to obtain worldwide control. This has been made clear by genetic engineering, patents on plants and animals, the introduction of seed reproduction fees... Add to that terminator technology that destroys the fertility of seeds and the prohibition of peasant varieties. We must prevent the very basis of

our food supply from becoming a source of profit for multinational companies.

Two years ago we launched the petition „Sowing the future-harvesting diversity“ to protest against planned new European Union seed laws that are dominated by the interests of the big seed companies.

We intend to present the tens of thousands of signatures collected throughout Europe to the European Parliament and call for an enquiry to clarify whether these laws violate the fundamental right to food and to access to seeds.

We invite you to participate in two days of action during which we will make clear our opposition to EU policies and our intention to resist against them.

Come to Brussels! We are not prepared to accept that the basis of our livelihood is handed over to multinationals. In the future we intend to maintain and pass on the heritage of our plant varieties.

The main event will take place on 17 April, the day of international peasant resistance declared by Via Campesina, followed by a demonstration on the 18th.

If you cannot come to Brussels, organise similar events in your countries, cities and villages!



Program:

Sunday, 17 April 2011
11.00 -18.00 Molenbeek Cultural Centre
Chaussée de Merchtem 67

International Seed Swap and multilingual exhibition on seeds

Through this seed swap we want to draw public attention to a practice that has become increasingly widespread throughout Europe over the past few years and that could be made illegal by the planned EU laws.

16.00 -19.00 Molenbeek Cultural Centre

Conference with presentations and debate „Access to seeds is a human right“

Activists from India, Turkey and several European countries will describe the situation concerning seeds in their countries and the consequences of the planned EU laws.

19.00 – 24.00 Molenbeek Cultural Centre

Music and films, dance and demo workshop

Monday 18 April 2011
10.00 -13.00 Mundo B, Rue d'Edimbourg 26

World-Café

Getting to know each other, exchange of experience and knowledge, discussions on collective work on seeds and the maintaining and multiplication of plant and crop diversity in gardens and fields.

15.00 -17.00 Demonstration

Demonstration to the Brussels offices of seed companies and their lobby organisations

Please contact us if you want to take part in these events and in the growing resistance against the monopolisation and privatisation of seeds !

Internet: www.seed-sovereignty.org
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This event is organised by:

