

FREE TRADE ISN'T FREE: WHY WE NEED TO END NAFTA 2.0 and STOP PLANT CLOSURES

The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement is the North America trade agreement that “replaced” NAFTA. In 2026, the deal is up for “review.” The US government needs to either tear up or fundamentally rewrite the agreement to put workers first.

Instead of improving NAFTA, the USMCA was just “NAFTA 2.0,” and the jobs kept disappearing, while corporations keep exploiting workers abroad, then ship product back into the US, and make a killing, which they use to pay off Wall Street and Washington DC.

The UAW wants a new trade deal that puts workers first. We want equal pay for equal work across borders, with labor rights for all. It means that selling a product in the US requires making the product in the US. And it means that we need to invest in manufacturing to create good jobs, not just more corporate greed and executive paydays.

WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT

STEP 1. SPEAK UP. Right now, the USMCA “Comment Period” is open. We want you to tell the US government why “free trade” and decades of plant closures doesn’t work for you.

STEP 2. SPREAD THE WORD. We need thousands of working people to submit USMCA comments. Share the comment submission form in your plant.

STEP 3. LEAD THE WAY. Let us know if you’re willing to lead on this issue, if this is something you’re passionate about. We’ll make videos, organize lobbying days, and make sure the world knows you are saying HELL NO to the USMCA and to the free trade disaster.

FREE TRADE: FACT VS. FICTION

FICTION: Free trade helps workers in Mexico and other low-wage countries because they get more jobs. So they’ll buy more US products, creating jobs here.

FACT: Real wages in Mexico are DOWN since NAFTA was passed. Mexican workers can’t afford to buy more US products, so US plants close. **We need a North American minimum wage to stop being forced to compete over poverty wages.**

FICTION: USMCA has strong labor protections for Mexican workers.

FACT: While it looks good on paper, the tools for labor protections have been inadequate.

FICTION: Tariffs just raise prices for consumers.

FACT: Targeted tariffs and other protections have historically been a key part of preventing a global race to the bottom.



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