

Fatal
Transactions
NEWSLETTER



April 2009

FATAL TRANSACTIONS MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Fatal Transactions calls on the EU to tackle corporate abuse right now



Fatal Transactions has urged the EU to stop European Multinational Enterprises from profiting at the expense of human rights at a public hearing on 16 April 2009 of the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights of the EU. A Briefing Note was presented with strong recommendations to end corporate abuse of European companies outside the EU, including those extracting the natural resources of Africa. [Read more...](#)

Niza organised expert meeting on the role of natural resources in fragile states



Niza joined forces with the Dutch development NGO Cordaid to emphasise the role of natural resources in fragile states. Supporting development in fragile states is a major objective of the current Dutch international development policy. Therefore, Niza and Cordaid organised an expert meeting on the role of natural resources in fragile states, targeting Dutch policy makers and companies involved in the natural resources supply chain. The report and the policy recommendations of the meeting will be available [here](#) from 13 May onwards. For Niza and Cordaid's position on these issues read more [here...](#)

Fatal Transactions at the 'Afrikadag 2009' in The Hague, The Netherlands



The annual 'Afrikadag' is a major event that brings together policymakers, NGOs, experts and others interested in Africa. During this year's edition Niza hosted a workshop on the role of conflict resources, like coltan and cassiterite, and elaborated on how the European electronic sector is involved in the current conflict in Eastern Congo by allowing these resources to enter into their supply chain before being ending up in their end products. Dutch MP Paul Kalma (Labor Party) gave his perspectives on the issue and discussed with the participants how conflict resources can be banned from the electronic sector's supply chain.

Niza: Petition 'Clean Call for Congo' signed by 1200 persons



On March 14, the 1200 signatures of the Clean Call for Congo were handed to a representative of the electronics industry by Niza, together with several other NGOs. During the handover, the public symbolically blew 1200 soap bubbles to clean their 'dirty' mobile phones, which might have been produced using conflict resources from Eastern Congo. [Read more...](#)



This project is funded by the European Union and implemented by Fatal Transactions. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission.

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FATAL TRANSACTIONS MEMBER ACTIVITIES (continued)

IPIS report on Central African Republic



“Mapping Conflict Motives: Central African Republic” is the third study in the IPIS mapping series. It deals with the presence, behaviour and motivation of armed groups operating in the Central African Republic in 2008. One of the study’s conclusion is that currently there’s no clear link between natural resources and conflict in the CAR. Download the report [here...](#)

Documentary ‘Katanga Business’ screened by Broederlijk Delen



Broederlijk Delen, associate member of Fatal Transactions, organised together with other Belgian and international organizations a screening of the new documentary ‘Katanga Business’. The documentary offers a view on the mining industry in DRC’s Southern province Katanga. It follows the lives of several characters, including the artisanal miners fighting for survival, the governor of Katanga Moise Katumbi, the Belgian mining tycoon George Forrest, and a Chinese entrepreneur. Katanga Business is showing in select theatres. For more information about the movie click [here...](#)

FATAL TRANSACTIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Report ‘Digging for Peace’ of Fatal Transactions conference is available now!



On November 21 – 22 the annual Fatal Transactions conference was held in Bonn. The conference report is available now. Besides the initial addresses and keynote speeches, the report contains summaries of the panel discussions and a conclusion by Fatal Transactions’ International Coordinator. The Conference was hosted by Fatal Transactions member BICC and offered a platform for analysing the current status quo of resource extraction in (potential) conflict areas. [Download the report here...](#)

BICC workshop: Advocay at the EU level, May 13, Bonn, Germany



BICC organises a workshop for civil society organisations on how to implement advocacy action targeting the European Union, with a focus on the issue of natural resources and conflict. The workshop will take place from 13.00 to 17.15 hrs on the 13th of May 2009 at BICC’s offices in Bonn. [Read more...](#)

BICC will also attend the ‘Kirchentag’ (German protestant church day). The ‘kirchentag’ takes place from May 20 to 24. The event combines music concerts with activities about social, ethical and political issues.



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FATAL TRANSACTIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

International conference “China’s quest for Africa’s resources” (Wroclaw University, Poland)



This two-day international conference (14-15 December), organized by the Institute of International Studies of Wroclaw University (Poland) in cooperation with Fatal Transactions, will explore various issues concerning the growing engagement of China in Africa with regards to natural resources. The conference seeks to provide a platform for academics, NGOs and politicians to confront their views on the China’s venture in Africa. Paper proposals should be submitted before 31 July 2009. More information will soon be available [here](#) or contact [Dominik Kopinski](#) of Wroclaw University directly.

Forthcoming Fatal Transactions report ‘Africa’s natural resources in a global perspective’



In June Fatal Transactions member IPIS will publish the report “Africa’s Natural resources in a global perspective”. The report will serve as a background document. It will offer a global perspective on the geopolitical stakes of Africa’s mineral wealth. The report is a joint collaboration between Fatal Transactions, IPIS, and the Belgian network of NGO’s working on natural resources, ‘Ressources Naturelles Belge’.

Fatal Transactions is an international campaign for awareness raising among consumers, opinion makers, politicians and industry on the crucial relation between trade in natural resources from African countries and continuation and escalation of armed conflicts and human rights violations. The overall objective is to end armed conflicts and human rights violations by drying up the financial resources and making sure that the revenues made out of the exploitation of natural resources are being used for the well-being of the population.

Fatal Transactions is carried out by 4 European NGOs; [Netherlands Institute for Southern Africa](#) (The Netherlands), [BICC](#) (Germany), [IKVPax Christi Netherlands](#) (The Netherlands), [IPIS](#) (Belgium). Associates are: [Medico International](#) (Germany), [OxfamNovib](#) (The Netherlands), [Broederlijk Delen](#) (Belgium) [CENADEP](#) (DR Congo), [Wroclaw](#) (Poland), [Groundwork](#) (South Africa), [JEA](#) (Angola)

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