

THEROBINHOODTAX

C/O Oxfam House
John Smith Drive
Cowley, Oxford,
OX4 2JY

31 October 2011

Rt Hon David Cameron MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

Dear Prime Minister,

In February 2010 we launched the Robin Hood Tax campaign, calling for a tiny tax on financial transactions to tackle poverty at home and overseas, provide vaccines and life saving treatment for the world's most vulnerable, and tackle the impacts of climate change. Eighteen months later we are just days away from a G20 summit where a financial transactions tax (FTT) will be debated. We have the support of over 115 organisations in the UK, hundreds of thousands of ordinary people, 1000 international economists, over a thousand parliamentarians, campaigners in over 50 countries, world leaders such as Angela Merkel and Nicolas Sarkozy, and global figures such as Bill Gates.

But we don't yet have the support of the UK Government.

We are calling on you to change this now, and work with other G20 countries to introduce a financial transactions tax when you attend the G20 summit in Cannes. Your government has said that you are not opposed to an international financial transactions tax and that you will engage on this issue. But we fear that instead the UK Government is acting to block debate. This is despite the fact that the UK has one of the largest transaction taxes in the world, the stamp duty on shares, and is a world leader in showing how to design and implement such taxes without global agreement.

The UK is also leading the world with its commitment to reach 0.7% of GNI as ODA and is in a position of strength to champion development and climate finance. We therefore also call on you to argue that the revenues from an FTT are used in part to support international development efforts—urgent progress is needed internationally on the 2015 Millennium Development Goals to tackle poverty and hunger, and achieve targets on health, education, gender, water and sanitation—and to provide the minimum \$100bn per annum pledged for climate finance.

A Robin Hood Tax would be the most popular tax in history. While you are at Cannes, please act for those hit hardest by the financial crisis. Act to protect essential public services in the UK, to tackle poverty at home and overseas, and to address climate change.

Yours sincerely,

Barbara Stocking, Chief Executive, Oxfam	Kevin McCullough, Head of Campaigns, CAFOD	David Bull, Executive Director, UNICEF UK
Brendan Barber, General Secretary, TUC	David Prentis, General Secretary, Unison	Belinda Calaguas, Policy and Campaigns Director, ActionAid
Anne Marie Carrie, Chief Executive, Barnardo's	Paul Brannen, Head of Advocacy and Influence, Christian Aid	Matthew Frost, Chief Executive, Tearfund
Len McCluskey, General Secretary, Unite	Christine Blower, General Secretary, National Union of Teachers	Barbara Frost, Chief Executive, Wateraid
David Hillman, Director, Stamp Out Poverty	Deborah Doane, Director, World Development Movement	Tom Skinner, Campaigns Coordinator, SPEAK Network
Sir Stuart Etherington, Chief Executive, National Council for Voluntary Organisations	Phil Gray, Chief Executive, Chartered Society of Physiotherapy	Kevin Curley, Chief Executive, NAVCA
John Hilary, Executive Director, War on Want	Mike Podmore, Chair, Stop AIDS Campaign	Sally Hunt, General Secretary, University and College Union
Jake Leeper and Hannah Smith, co-chairs, UKYCC	Ronnie Smith, General Secretary, the Educational Institute of Scotland	Andy Flannagan, Director, CSM
Rev Paul Nicolson, Chairman, Zacchaeus 2000 Trust	Sally Hunt, General Secretary, University and College Union	Martin Drewry, Director, Health Poverty Action
Michelle Stanistreet, General Secretary, NUJ	Joe Saxton, Chair, People & Planet.	Paul Kenny, General Secretary, GMB
Gerry Doherty, General Secretary, TSSA	Aaron Oxley, Executive Director, RESULTS UK	Alan Smith, COO, Interact Worldwide
Anne Peacey, Chair, National Justice and Peace Network	Sarah Kenningham, National Coordination Team, ATD Fourth World	Therisa Helm, Director, Chigwell Justice and Peace Centre
Mark Serwotka, General Secretary, PCS	Revd Canon Mark Oxbrow, International Director, Faith2Share	Paul Noon, General Secretary, Prospect

Tony Dykes, Director,
Action for Southern
Africa (ACTSA)

Toby Blume, Chief
Executive, Urban Forum

Rev Roberta Rominger,
General Secretary,
United Reformed
Church

Peter Saunders, Chief
Executive, Christian
Medical Fellowship

Mary Bousted, General
Secretary, Association
of Teachers and
Lecturers (ATL)

Chris Keates, General
Secretary, NASUWT

Rajesh Makwana,
Director, Share The
World's Resources

Kim Bryan,
Communications and
Media Officer, Centre
for Alternative
Technology

Eric Levine, Chief
Executive, Restless
Development

Alvaro Bermejo,
Executive Director of
International HIV/AIDS
Alliance

Gerry Morrissey,
General Secretary,
BECTU – The Media &
Entertainment Union

Phil Mulligan, Executive
Director of the United
Nations Association of
the UK

Kirsty Smith, Director of
the Methodist Relief and
Development Fund

Dr. Taavi Tillmann,
CEO, Economic
Governance for Health

Revd Dr Martyn Atkins,
General Secretary,
Methodist Church

Alison Gelder, Director,
Housing Justice

Sabine McNeil, National
Director, Forum for
Stable Currencies

Neil Coyle, Director of
Policy, Disability
Alliance

Niall Cooper, National
Coordinator, Church
Action on Poverty

Philippa Bonella, Head
of Communications and
Education, SCIAF

Rosie Martin, CEO,
African Initiatives

Marijn van de Geer,
Director of Education
and Fundraising,
International Refugee
Trust

Peter Kelly, Director,
The Poverty Alliance
(Scotland)

Jonathan Ledger,
General Secretary,
Napo

James Ticardo,
Campaigns Director,
Jubilee Scotland

Gwen Schaffer, Co-clerk
of Quaker peace and
Social Witness

Rev Ian Galloway,
Convener of the Church
and Society Council of
the Church of Scotland

Derek McAuley, Chief
Officer, General
Assembly of Unitarian
and Free Christian
Churches

John Smith, General
Secretary, The
Musician's Union

Terry Ryall, Chief
Executive, vinspired

Joe Merriman,
Campaigns
Coordinator, Africa
Europe Faith Justice
Network