

WEALL TALK



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ECONOMY FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Ethical World Trade as an alternative to free trade and protectionism

Free trade was considered a "consensus topic" amongst mainstream economists before the coronacrisis. Amongst citizens, it was not, they were already more prone to local and regional supply chains, resilience and democratic control; but the gap between "experts" and people is hardly anywhere as wide as here. Those who criticized free trade were quickly called "protectionists". If the citizens could vote between trade as an end ("free trade"), closure of national borders ("protectionism") and trade as a means for the greater good ("ethical trade"), what do you guess would be the result?

Christian Felber shows in his book "Trading for Good" (orig. Geman "Ethischer Welthandel") that both terms - free trade and protectionism - are non-sensical, and that there are more reasonable alternatives to these extremes.

He is the initiator of the Economy for the Common Good movement and the Cooperative for the Common Good in Austria, book author, IASS Affiliate Scholar (Berlin) and last but not least, a WEAII Ambassador.