

Newsletter about Pesticides

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Civil society activities



Germany: Double standards in the pesticide trade

On April 26, 2022, 3 days before the Annual General Meetings of Bayer and BASF, the two major pesticide manufacturers in Germany, Pan Germany and Inkota, published a <u>leaflet</u> entitled *Doppelstandards im Pestizidhandel* (Double standards in the pesticide trade).

The leaflet refers to the double standards of European agrochemical companies, such as Bayer and BASF, which market pesticides that have been banned from use in the European Union because of the dangers they pose to human health or the environment in countries in Asia, Latin America and Africa.



Pan Germany and INKOTA denounce this difference in treatment, which suggests that for pesticide producers, the health of people and the environment in the South are less worthy of protection than in Europe. The leaflet explains why double standards are a major problem, how Bayer and BASF minimize them and how to put an end to them.

The leaflet addresses the main problems associated with this immoral trade, which are, especially in the South, the lack of regulation and control, inadequate warnings, improper storage and disposal of these hazardous products, the use of pesticide containers by the poor, the lack of minimum spraying distances, and the lack of protective clothing or uncomfortable clothing in hot climates.

The organizations ask for more transparency on the international trade of pesticides, a ban on the export of banned pesticides for Germany, a ban on the export of banned pesticides for the EU, the global phase-out of highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs) and the promotion of alternatives.

In February 2022, **Svenja Schulze** (the Minister of Development of the Republic of Germany) <u>announced</u> a ban on the export of hazardous pesticides in order to "set a good example. However, no concrete steps have been taken in this direction since then.

If you have made it this far, can you make one more small effort to allow us to continue this work of investigation and information to help the victims of pesticides?

Justice Pesticides needs you.

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