



Dear President,  
Dear Martin,

We were stunned to hear the news this morning that our colleague, José Bové, who was on his way to a mission in Canada to take part in CETA-related events, was arrested upon his arrival on Canadian soil. He was forced to stay in a hotel while waiting to be expelled later today.

We believe that our Parliament cannot stay silent in the face of such an extreme measure taken unilaterally by the Canadian government. The official reasons for his arrest go back to a conviction for past actions, namely the destruction of GMO fields and the demolition of a McDonalds Restaurant. These actions have never been considered as an obstacle to his mandate as a European elected representative. It is therefore unacceptable that these same actions should be used as motives to justify his expulsion from a country which should be considered as our "ally".

This hostile gesture doesn't bode well for the openness and free movement that are essential to a deal between the EU and Canada, which goes far beyond a simple trade agreement. In our view, no political or economic project is worth restricting the freedom of speech and expression.

In this context, we expect from you, as President of our Parliament, a firm reaction towards the Canadian government.

With kind regards,

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Co-president of the Greens/EFA in the European Parliament

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