

# The MONSANTO Tribunal

## The Hague 14 to 16 October 2016

### The Netherlands



**The transnational agribusiness giant, MONSANTO, is a driving force behind the spread of industrial agriculture across the globe.** It is also a powerful symbol of industrial agriculture, the chemical-intensive form of production that pollutes the environment, accelerates biodiversity loss, and massively contributes to global warming. These are crimes against humanity and nature, which can no longer go on with impunity. For this reason, a broad international coalition has been formed to publicly discuss the corporate control of our food system, and to bring together experts on human and environmental rights to judge MONSANTO for its role in social and ecological devastation.



**MONSANTO produces and sells highly toxic products,** which have caused permanent environmental damage and illness or death for thousands of people. These products include: PCBs, one of the 12 Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP) that affect human and animal fertility; 2,4,5 T a component of Agent Orange, a defoliant used by the US Army during the Vietnam War that continues to cause birth defects and cancer; Lasso, an herbicide that is now banned in Europe; RoundUp, (Glyphosat) the most widely used herbicide in the world. The source of one of the greatest health and environmental scandals in modern history.



**According to its critics, MONSANTO is able to ignore the human and environmental damage caused by its products** and maintain its devastating activities through a strategy of systemic concealment: by lobbying regulatory agencies and governments, by resorting to lying and corruption, by financing fraudulent scientific studies, by pressuring independent scientists, by manipulating the press and media, etc. The history of MONSANTO would thereby constitute a text-book case of impunity, benefiting transnational corporations and their executives, whose activities contribute to climate and biosphere crises and threaten the safety of the planet.