

**Letter to the Editor, written by David Delk, Co-chair, Portland, Oregon, Alliance for Democracy Chapter in response to an editorial in The Oregonian.**

The Oregonian editorializes that "It's tricky to estimate how many jobs are directly tied to trade, much less how many would be created if the TPP is signed." Tricky, indeed, when you only account for part of the jobs equation. Missing from this equation is how many jobs will be destroyed as a result of this agreement.

The US-South Korea trade agreement was the last to go into effect. President Obama said that because of increased export opportunities, 70,000 new jobs would be created and that our trade balance with So. Korea would improve. Yet since then, our trade deficit with So Korea has grown, meaning that those new jobs never materialized. In fact, during the agreement's first 3 years, the trade deficit increased by \$11.8 billion, meaning that 75,000 good paying American jobs were lost.

So it is important to ask the right questions. Since the agreement will encourage off-shoring of investments and jobs and will do nothing to stop currency manipulation, the likelihood of a favorable result from the TPP corporate trade agreement is slim. The TPP should be rejected.

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Sources: <http://www.epi.org/blog/u-s-korea-trade-deal-resulted-in-growing-trade-deficits-and-more-than-75000-lost-u-s-jobs/>

[https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/fact\\_sheet\\_overview\\_us\\_korea\\_free\\_trade\\_agreement.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/fact_sheet_overview_us_korea_free_trade_agreement.pdf)