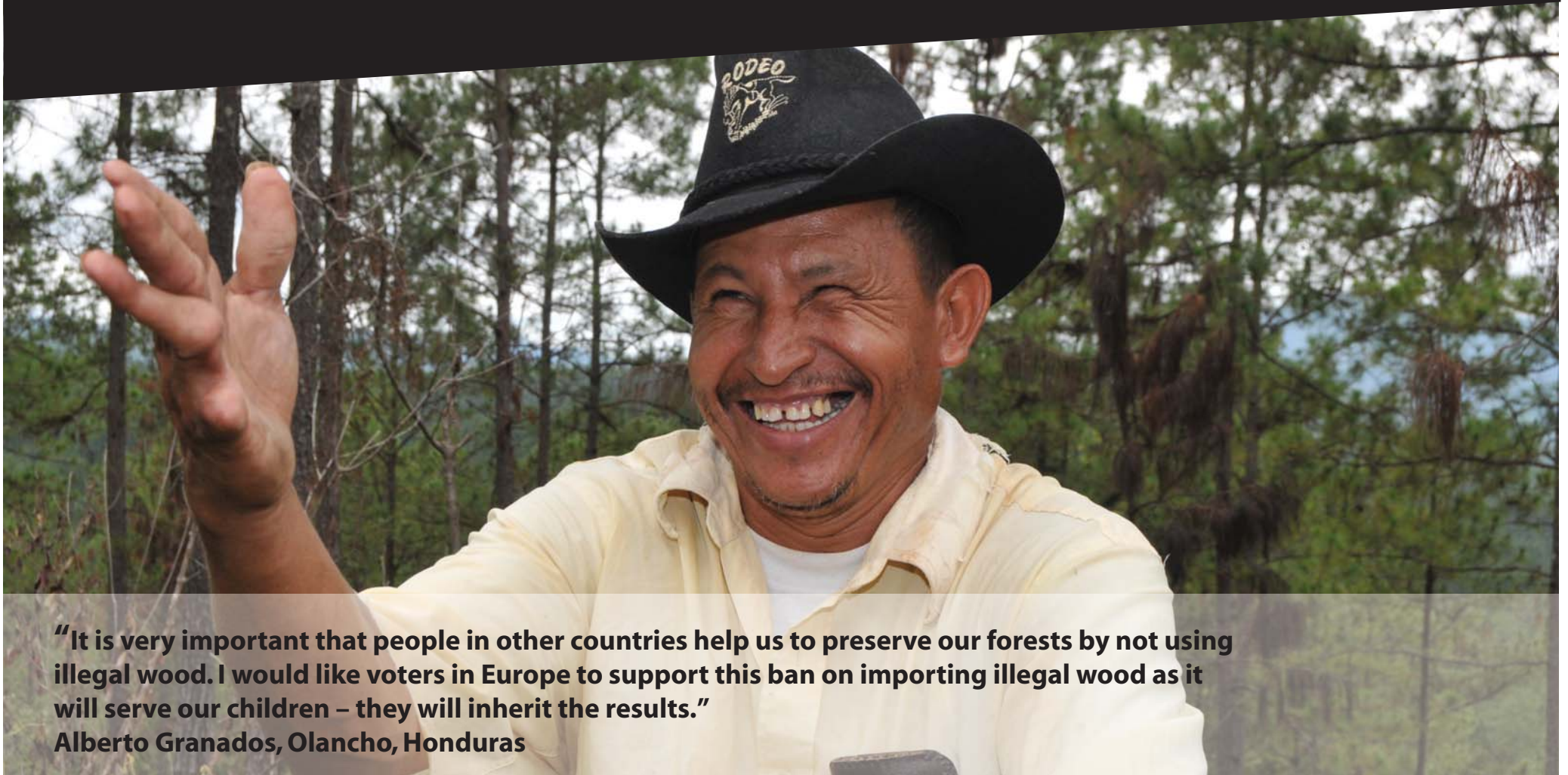


PROGRESSIO



"It is very important that people in other countries help us to preserve our forests by not using illegal wood. I would like voters in Europe to support this ban on importing illegal wood as it will serve our children – they will inherit the results."

Alberto Granados, Olancho, Honduras

Act before July 5 to ban illegal timber in the UK and Europe:
www.progressio.org.uk

Thank you for downloading this PROactive campaign action sheet and for supporting Progressio's illegal logging action.

The vote is on July 5, so there's not much time to get our voices heard. While there is some hope in the European Parliament for the legislation which has been agreed, we still need to make sure our politicians know that there is public support to ban illegal timber. This is our chance and it is vital that we take it.

Included on this sheet is everything you'll need to tell our politicians we don't want illegal timber in the UK or Europe:

A short text for your church bulletin or to email around

A general intercession for Sunday Mass on June 27 and July 4

A suggested text to write a letter to MEPs

A list of MEPs by region

A poster to print and display in a prominent place is included on the front of this pack

Short text: You can use the following text in your church bulletin or personal emails to spread the word:

Illegal logging is a disaster for poor communities. Help Catholic overseas charity Progressio urgently act to ban illegal wood in the UK and Europe before July 5. Please go to www.progressio.org.uk/logging – please make your voice heard.

General intercession: There are two Sundays ahead of the vote, on 27 June and 4 July. Why not ask to add the following text to the intercessions your parish normally use?

At this time we pray for the European Parliament, which is considering legislation to stop illegally logged timber being traded throughout Europe. Guide our political leaders to govern as responsible stewards of the natural environment. May your Holy Spirit pour out gifts of wisdom and right judgement on those making decisions on our behalf over the coming weeks. Awaken in us all the desire to live in consideration of others, mindful that we are prophets of your creation and aware of the needs of future generations. Amen.

Suggested text: Not everyone can get online so if you want to write to your MEPs instead, or want text for a petition which you can photocopy and send to them, the following text can be used. There is also an online form to use at www.progressio.org.uk/logging

Everyone is represented in the European Parliament by a group of MEPs, not just one. So all those listed in your region represent you and you can write to any or all of them. If you wanted you could call them – they would be surprised to hear from a constituent! Please let us know when you write or hear anything back.

I am sure you are aware that an estimated 20% of all illegally logged timber is imported into the EU.

As a consumer who may unwittingly be buying wood that contributes to deforestation, climate change, loss of biodiversity and poverty in developing countries, I would like to strongly support the position negotiated by the European Parliament Environment Committee and the Council of Ministers regarding a prohibition on the import of illegally logged timber.

Strong legislation to prohibit the placing of illegally harvested timber on the EU market will send a message to unscrupulous traders that the EU and its market will not tolerate this criminal trade. It will also level the playing field across all member states for the responsible operators who already have good sourcing policies.

Please give your support to the vote timetabled for the week beginning July 5 for a prohibition on bringing illegal timber into the EU and strong traceability requirements for all who trade in timber or timber products. I would be proud to see UK MEPs at the forefront of putting an end to this destructive trade, and be reassured that the products I buy are not harming poor people.

Yours sincerely

UK MEPs – by region.

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Thank you for taking action with
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For more details of our work around the
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