

Dear Madam/Sir,

Australia, which has plenty of wealth, has been using its military and economic power to impose a self-serving version of international maritime boundaries, to rob a huge amount of fossil fuel wealth from the people of the poorest nation in Asia: East Timor, where people die young from poverty.

Australia has a strong economy and can easily afford to stop robbing the people of East Timor.

Australia's government has revenue problems (but still much more wealth than East Timor) because:

- (1) they spend big on the military for their murderous wars for corporate greed,
- (2) they sold off the publicly owned corporations that were giving us revenue (e.g. the Commonwealth Bank, Qantas, Telstra, part of Australia Post, the electricity grid and public transport systems),
- (3) they let rich people and their corporations pay little or no tax, and
- (4) they give corporate welfare to those corporations (e.g. corporate subsidies, and building a port and railway for Adani coal-mining corporation and letting corporations get rich by polluting and harming our health and damaging our economy with climate change, etc., without making corporations bear the cost of that harm).

The Coalition's austerity policies harm our economy, while if we distribute wealth more evenly by increasing welfare for poor people, and by employing more people in government jobs, then we benefit EVERYONE:

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2015/jun/04/better-economic-growth-when-wealth-distributed-to-poor-instead-of-rich>

<https://www.getup.org.au/campaigns/corporate-tax/stop-the-corporate-tax-dodging-rort/crack-down-on-corporate-tax-dodging>

So, please stop robbing the people of the poorest nation in Asia: East Timor. Please agree to the version of maritime law which East Timor is asking for.

Peace,  
from Simon Ashworth WOOD,

NSW,