



Public Services International  
Internationale des Services Publics  
Internacional de Servicios Públicos  
Internationale der Öffentlichen Dienste  
Internationell Facklig Organisation för Offentliga Tjänster  
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## GEN CIRCULAR No. 8 (2014)

To all affiliates  
To EB, SC, WOC members

All PSI staff for information

File Reference: RP/DBE-vd  
Contact Name: [Daniel.Bertossa@world-psi.org](mailto:Daniel.Bertossa@world-psi.org)  
28 July 2014

Dear Colleague,

### **From GATS to TISA: PSI Global Trade in Services Forum Geneva, 17-18 October 2014**

I write to invite you to PSI's Global Trade in Services Forum, **From GATS to TISA**, which will take place in Geneva on 17-18 October 2014. I attach a draft programme for your information.

This forum, being held in partnership with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) and the Our World Is Not For Sale (OWINFS) network, is the first ever global conference to provide a critical perspective on the TISA.

It will bring together leading global experts, trade unions from the public and private sector, civil society and government representatives from around the world to share information about the TISA. They will discuss the threats posed to public services, democracy and workers, and plan action to oppose its harmful elements.

The first day will feature expert presentations and strategic discussions on the history and geopolitics of the TISA, the corporate interests behind its negotiation, why the negotiations are being held in secret and the implications for privatisation of public services and governments' ability to regulate in the public interest. It will examine the effects on sectors such as health and social services, energy, municipal, finance, education and telecommunications.

Day two will be an opportunity for trade unions and civil society to discuss strategy and plan action in opposition to the TISA. It will be an opportunity to meet and share ideas with some of the world's best trade campaigners and to plan national and international action.

**Unions from TISA participating countries are particularly encouraged to attend: Australia, Canada, Chile, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Costa Rica, European Union (28 Member States), Hong Kong, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States.**

However, the current TISA negotiating countries have stated they want to expand the TISA to other countries. Unions from countries such as Uruguay which have been targeted for membership are also encouraged to attend.

Public Services International (PSI) is a global trade union federation representing 20 million working women and men who deliver vital public services in 150 countries. PSI champions human rights, advocates for social justice and promotes universal access to quality public services. PSI works with the United Nations system and in partnership with labour, civil society and other organisations.

The meeting will be held in **English with Spanish interpretation**.

**Limited sponsorship** is available for affiliates who wish to be active in campaigning against TISA in their own country.

To **register** for this event, please return the attached registration form by 10 September latest to [Veronika.Darras@world-psi.org](mailto:Veronika.Darras@world-psi.org).

For **further information**, please contact [Daniel.Bertossa@world-psi.org](mailto:Daniel.Bertossa@world-psi.org).

We look forward to seeing you at this important global meeting.

Yours in solidarity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rosa Pavanelli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'R' and 'P'.

Rosa Pavanelli  
PSI General Secretary

Enclosed:

- Draft Programme (dated 28/7/14)
- Registration form