



# Public Services International at the *World Social Forum*



Public Services International  
Internationale des Services Publics  
Internacional de Servicios Públicos  
Internationale der Öffentlichen Dienste  
Internationell Facklig Organisation for Offentliga Tjänster  
國際公務勞運



# يوم العدالة في قطاع المياه في تونس

WATER JUSTICE DAY IN TUNIS

25  
MARCH  
13:00 – 19:00  
Université  
du 9 avril

As the global water crisis deepens around the world, we water justice advocates see the problem as a political one. The water crisis highlights the extent to which injustice and environmental devastation are intrinsic to the dominant global agenda of neoliberalism. As corporations scramble to acquire greater access to scarce water resources in order to ensure continued economic growth, we are communities and solidarity organizations asserting our right to defend water sources for people and the planet.

Because water is a cross-cutting issue that is central to many of our struggles for justice, we will hold a water justice day prior the World Social Forum allowing groups to connect, share strategies and ideas.

## GOALS

- Bring together key allies of the water justice movement
- Explore strategic discussion trends, challenges and opportunities for the water justice movement with emphasis on strategies and solutions being employed currently
- Explore intersections with other sectors/struggles (climate, mining, dams, anti-colonial struggles)
- Hear updates from activists involved in key struggles
- Share strategies for water justice
- Connect water justice advocates from around the world with Tunisian movements
- Link global campaigns with local water justice struggles in the Maghreb and around the world

Convening organizations: Blue Planet Project - Comitato Italiano Contratto Mondiale sull'acqua Onlus - Cicma Onlus - European Water Network - Eyes Network - Federación española de Ingeniería Sin Fronteras - Focus on the Global South - Food and Water Watch / Food and Water Europe - France Libertés - Jubilee South Asia Pacific Movement on Debt and Development - Indigenous Environmental Network - International Rivers - Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy - The Italian Forum of Water Movements - Les Petits Débrouillards - Polaris Institute - Public Services International - Transnational Institute - Via Campesina

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# لا تقدم اجتماعي من دون نقابات مستقلة

**NO SOCIAL PROGRESS WITHOUT INDEPENDENT UNIONS**

**27  
MARCH**  
13:00 – 15:30  
Salle ABG

All work has dignity, and all workers deserve to be treated with respect by their employers. Trade unions play a decisive role in improving working conditions, safety and wages – yet some governments and employers systematically abuse the right of workers to join existing unions or form new ones. Trade unions are also representatives of working people in a world that is increasingly individualistic. Having collective institutions to defend common goals on working and living conditions is a right for all.

The workshop will examine how a fundamental human right: the ILO Convention 87 on the Freedom of Association is given effect in different countries. The workshop is intended for trades' union activists, worker rights activists and associations, as well as other interested parties to jointly explore and debate the roles trades' unions must continue to play in the coming years to anchor democracy within the MENA and other regions.

Partners : CGIL (Italy), CUT (Brazil), FGTB (Belgium), HSU-PGTU (Palestine), RETA (Egypt), SNAPAP (Algeria), Solidarity Center (AFL-CIO), UGTT (Tunisia), UKCS (Kenya)

## طاولة مستديرة حول المياه كونها ذات منفعة عامة وحق انساني

**ROUNDTABLE ON WATER AS A COMMONS AND A HUMAN RIGHT**

**27  
MARCH**  
13:00 – 15:30  
Salle P19

The campaign for a human right to water and sanitation was spawned by social movements who have fought against privatization of water services, the commodification of resources and the corporate takeover of community water supplies. Now that the right to water and sanitation has been formally recognized by the United Nations and a growing list of national governments, we must push for an implementation of this right that allows us to move forward in our campaigns for water justice. This roundtable discussion will bring together water justice groups from the Global South and North to discuss key strategies in promoting an implementation of the human right to water consistent with our local campaigns to protect water as a commons, free from privatization, commodification, mar-

ketization and financialization. We hope to build links and exchange key strategies with local groups in Tunisia and Northern Africa.

# تمكين النساء

## EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

27  
MARCH  
16:00 – 18:30  
Salle S 12

How do we strengthen the role of women in the fight for democracy, economic and social rights? We will discuss examples of constructive processes that impact on gender equality and support the empowerment of women, including in rural areas and dealing with cross cutting themes such as land and women rights, climate justice, HIV/AIDS, education and economic development.

Violence against women creates inequality and gaps in development, affecting the well-being of current and future generations. Public sector workers are well-positioned to promote, implement and monitor laws and regulations that advance gender equality and protection against violence and harassment. Even where laws are put in place, communities and especially women are often not aware of them. Eliminating violence requires strong intervention from public authorities in order to design and implement appropriate prevention measures, to ensure legal protection and the prosecution of cases, and to provide support and compensation for victims. This means that gender issues and women in trade unions need to become more visible and effective, best practices from the MENA and other regions will be shared.

Partners: CDT (Marocco), CGIL (Italy), CGTP (Peru), Cestrar (Rwanda), CUT (Brazil), DWRC (Palestine), FGTB (Belgium), HSU-PGTU (Palestine), ITUC Arab Trade Union Women's Network, SNAPAP (Algeria), UGTT (Tunisia), UKCS (Kenya), Zambia Social Forum

# يحتاج العالم لضريبة عادلة وضريبة على التحويلات المالية

## THE WORLD NEEDS TAX JUSTICE AND AN FTT

28  
MARCH  
09:00 – 12:00  
Salle M211

Citizens around the world, from the south to the north, are raising their voices in a common demand: it's time for tax justice. The rapidly growing tax justice movement calls for progressive taxation and progressive spending on public services and sustainable development to end poverty and inequity, supported by participatory democratic processes. This workshop will include discussion of ways to work together to achieve: a fair tax contribution by the financial sector through the introduction of a financial transactions tax, also known as the Robin Hood Tax; fair contribution by multinational companies through an end to national and international systems that enable massive tax dodging and tax havens; fair and effective progressive taxation systems in all countries; and specific policy proposals which can be used for worldwide campaigning.

Co-organized by: Attac Norway; CIDSE; CNCD-11.11.11; Europeans for Financial Reform; ETUC-CES; FGTB; Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung; Global Progressive Forum; Jubilee South Asia Pacific Movement on Debt and Development; National Nurses United; Oxfam Great Britain; Public Services International; Robin Hood Tax campaign; Tax Justice Network-Africa; Trades Union Congress; Ubuntu Forum; War on Want.

# توظيف الشباب هو الطريق للخروج من الازمة

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT IS THE WAY OUT OF CRISIS

28  
MARCH  
13:00 – 15:30  
Salle  
A. Ben Salah

Young workers, policy-makers, public authorities and trade unions build a platform for more decent jobs. The world is facing a worsening youth employment crisis: young people are three times more likely to be unemployed than adults and over 75 million youth worldwide are looking for work. Targeted youth policies are essential to resolve youth unemployment, promoting young people as Agents of change and fostering better skills among youth so that they are armed to face the global economic crisis and to increase their employment perspectives. The Council of Youth of Bolzano will share its ideas and best practices, involving the participants in a discussion on how these goals can be achieved.

Research consistently shows that young men and women are often marginalised. They must overcome more barriers than adults to secure decent employment. Steps must be taken to ensure that young people have access to education, training, and economic opportunities. Trade unions play an important role in providing a voice for young workers. Public Services International and its affiliates from the MENA and other regions will share their best practices.

Partners: CUARTEL BOLZANO (Italy), Region of Tuscany (Italy), SNAPAP (Algeria), UGTT (Tunisia)

## ديمقراطية المياه

WATER DEMOCRACY

28  
MARCH  
16:00 – 18:30  
Salle G

In Cairo, water was flowing to the rich gated communities but not to the poor areas of town: because of this grave injustice, water justice was one of the demands in the Egyptian revolution. What has changed in terms of citizens' access to essential services such as water and sanitation in the social transformation after the Arab Spring? In post-Arab Spring Tunisia, the government's neoliberal austerity policies may lead to the privatisation of the public water company SONEDE. Elsewhere in the world privatisation has proven to undermine the human right to water. This workshop aims to connect the grassroots water struggles, including the resistance to privatisation, in Tunisia, Egypt and other countries in North Africa and the Middle East as well as the rest of the world. What are the perspectives for reclaiming public water and developing well-performing and democratically accountable public utilities, which meet the needs of communities and protect the environment?

# الطاقة والتنمية والبيئة

ENERGY, DEVELOPMENT, CLIMATE



Ensure universal access to modern energy services, notably electricity. Establish public control of energy resources and services, including renewables. Focus on proposals and actors in Africa, including Desertec and Grand Inga. In many countries, massive investments are required, but they are not being made because of the misguided reliance on the private sector to bring finance, expertise, efficiency, etc. Policies and programmes for low-carbon energy sources are urgently needed, and renewable energy sources must play a much bigger role in meeting the energy needs of all people. Many of the international organisations, including the development banks, continue to propose failed market-based solutions. Decisions in the energy sector require participatory democratic processes. Currently, a number of powerful energy corporations dominate the public discourse. As the most recent UN climate negotiations in Doha, Qatar reveal, the corporate lobby and economic self-interest of most countries are blocking progress on carbon reduction targets, including in the energy sector.

