



**12 November 2013, Geneva**  
**PSI Steering Committee, meeting 11-12 November 2013**

### **PSI Steering Committee Resolution: Trade Union Rights for UN Staff Unions**

The UN Secretary General recently withdrew collective bargaining rights from the elected representatives of United Nations staff. PSI considers that the UN is thus sending an unacceptable message to the world that workers do not have any collective bargaining rights, especially coming from the global organisation dedicated to peace, social justice and upholding the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights - and the fundamental international labour conventions on freedom of association and collective bargaining of the International Labour Organization.

In a context where workers' rights face an onslaught in both the private and public sectors, PSI is convinced that the UN is sending the wrong message by denying fundamental workers' rights to its own staff. UN employees, who have a strong sense of duty to promote world peace and human dignity in a global context, are often exposed to particular risks to their health and physical integrity.

For large numbers of UN staff this issue will directly affect their safety at work and place them at greater risk. For example, staff are now unable to negotiate for UN security officers to protect them in the field and must rely on unscreened private security companies instead.

PSI has been in contact with the UN Staff Unions for some time, including with the support of PSI affiliate ILO Staff Union. We have sent a letter to the United Nations Secretary General Ban-ki-Moon and many of our affiliates have already expressed solidarity with the UN unions.

**Hereby we call on all PSI affiliates to take up this issue with their respective governments.**