

**RESOLUTION: Re: Bill C-51 *Anti-Terrorism Act*, 2015**

**Submitted by:** Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)

**To:** PSI Inter-American Regional Conference (IAMRECON) Mexico City, April 23-24, 2015

**WHEREAS:**

- On January 30, 2015 the Government of Canada tabled Bill C-51, the *Anti-Terrorism Act*, 2015;
- The *Anti-Terrorism Act* profoundly threatens the civil liberties and democratic freedoms of all people living in Canada, including the freedom of expression, assembly, security of the person, freedom from unlawful search, and freedom from arbitrary arrest;
- The *Anti-Terrorism Act* defines threats to “National Security”, as including interference with critical infrastructure and threats to economic and financial stability, which render trade unionists and activists who engage in strike action and other forms legitimate dissent vulnerable to unjust surveillance and criminalization;
- The *Anti-Terrorism Act* gives sweeping powers to Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) to collect and share private information and to detain without due process, significantly changing the mandate of CSIS and overriding the rights of Canadians currently protected in the criminal justice system;
- The *Anti-Terrorism Act* is a systematic effort to create a culture of fear by targeting minority and marginalized communities in Canada and aims not to prevent acts of terrorism but to silence legitimate dissent to right wing government policy;
- The *Anti-Terrorism Act* if passed has the potential to undermine our solidarity as workers struggling to create a more equal society.

**Public Service International (PSI) WILL:**

- Register strong opposition to Bill C-51 *the Anti-Terrorism Act*, 2015 by writing to the Prime Minister of Canada and the Cabinet outlining the very real dangers to freedom of speech, assembly, human rights, and democracy posed by the Bill;
- Support all efforts of the labour movement in Canada to oppose the *Anti-Terrorism Act* by responding to urgent calls for letters, e-mails and exposure through social media networks.
- Actively support the labour movement in Canada to connect and engage with trade unions and civil society groups globally who share our concern that anti-terror legislation is being used as a tool to silence legitimate dissent to right wing government policy; disproportionately targets minority and marginalized communities; and threatens to undermine our solidarity as workers.