

**Background materials for participants
PSI Global Trade Summit
Washington D.C. - 15-17 September 2014**

[PSI Special Report: TISA versus Public Services](#)

Public Services International

A new report by Public Services International (PSI) warns that governments are planning to take the world on a liberalisation spree on a scale never seen before. According to the report, this massive trade deal will put public healthcare, broadcasting, water, transport and other services at risk. The proposed deal could make it impossible for future governments to restore public services to public control, even in cases where private service delivery has failed. It would also restrict a government's ability to regulate key sectors including financial, energy, telecommunications and cross-border data flows.

[Public Health Care vs. The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement](#)

Public Services International-North America Sub-Region Briefing Paper

The TPP represents a systematic threat to quality public services and is poised to accelerate the privatization of public health care and insurance by degrading public health care delivery systems through foreign investor privilege clauses and a direct challenge to state ownership of public health care assets and national development in general.

[Public Services International statement to the 9th WTO Ministerial Conference, Bali, Indonesia, 3-6 December, 2013](#)

Public Services International

[Declaration of Joint Principles: TTIP Must Work for the People, or It Won't Work at All](#)
ETUC/AFL-CIO

[Investor-State Dispute Settlement in the TTIP and CETA](#)

Scott Sinclair-Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

[Trade deals That Threaten Democracy](#)

International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations

How the US-EU and TransPacific Trade and Investment Agreements will further empower corporations and undermine public services, social and environmental protection and trade union rights

[How investor-to-state dispute settlement threatens public welfare and undermines democracy](#)
AFL-CIO

Investors—meaning anyone who buys property in a foreign country, from a hectare of land to stocks and bonds—can use “investor-to-state dispute settlement” (ISDS) to sue governments over laws, regulations and even domestic court decisions that affect current or future profits. You can think of ISDS as establishing special “corporate courts” that have their own rules and that a country's own citizens cannot use.

Towards an Alternative Trade Mandate for the EU

Alternative Trade Mandate

Our belief is that Europe's trade has to be fundamentally changed. Our alternative respects human rights, and is democratically controlled by parliamentarians and the public. It's ecological, respects gender equality and creates justice between countries, social classes and ethnicities. We propose a trade policy that increases economic, social and environmental well-being globally.

Gains from Trade? The Net Effect of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement on U.S. Wages

David Rosnick and the Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR)

Recent estimates of the U.S. economic gains that would result from the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) are very small — only 0.13 percent of GDP by 2025. Taking into account the unequalizing effect of trade on wages, this paper finds the median wage earner will probably lose as a result of any such agreement. In fact, most workers are likely to lose — the exceptions being some of the bottom quarter or so whose earnings are determined by the minimum wage; and those with the highest wages who are more protected from international competition. Rather, many top incomes will rise as a result of TPP expansion of the terms and enforcement of copyrights and patents. The long-term losses, going forward over the same period (to 2025), from the failure to restore full employment to the United States have been some 25 times greater than the potential gains of the TPP, and more than five times as large as the possible gains resulting from a much broader trade agenda.

Our Right to Water: A People's Guide to Implementing the United Nations' Recognition of the Right to Water and Sanitation

Maude Barlow and the Council of Canadians

Race to the Bottom: How Outsourcing Public Services Rewards Corporations and Punishes the Middle Class

In The Public Interest

As state and local governments outsource important public functions to for-profit and other private entities, what happens to the quality of life for the workers who provide these services, and the communities in which they live? A growing body of evidence and industry wage data suggest an alarming trend: outsourcing public services sets off a downward spiral in which reduced worker wages and benefits can hurt the local economy and overall stability of middle and working class communities. By paying family-supporting wages and providing important benefits such as health insurance and sick leave, governments historically created intentional "ladders of opportunity" to allow workers and their families to reach the middle class. This is especially true for women and African Americans for whom the public sector has been a source of stable middle-class careers. Low-road government contracts reverse this dynamic. While corporations rake in increasing profits through taxpayer dollars and CEO compensation continues to soar, numerous examples in this report show that workers employed by state and local government contractors receive low wages and few benefits.