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## PSI World News

**PUBLIC SERVICES INTERNATIONAL | February 2011**

### 8 March 2011 - Defending and advancing public services for equality and peace

This year's International Women's Day celebrations by Public Services International members are marked by a wide-reaching sense of determination to make swift changes that better the world for women and their families. From Cairo, Egypt to Wisconsin, USA, women and men are on the move, demanding respect for basic rights and freedoms: the right to freedom of expression, the right to join a union, the right to collective bargaining, the right to live in dignity.

### United Nations Commission on the Status of Women

An eighty-strong delegation of trade union women participated in the 55th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York, from 22 February to 4 March, 2011. The main theme was women and girls' access to education and training, particularly in science & technology, and linkages with employment and decent work.

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### Solidarity and support for PSI affiliates in Wisconsin and other American states

Public Services International's affiliated unions in Wisconsin and other American states are battling vicious attempts by Republican leaders to eliminate collective bargaining and other union rights. PSI and our members from around the world have sent messages of solidarity. Canadian unions also sent a delegation to Madison.

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## Democracy and freedom in Arab countries

PSI affiliate the Real Estate Tax Collectors union (RETA) is leading the movement to establish an independent trade union federation in Egypt. PSI affiliates in Tunisia, Yemen, Palestine, Jordan and Algeria are also at the forefront of calls for change in their respective countries.

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## PSI message to New Zealand affiliates

PSI sent a message of condolences and sympathy following the devastating earthquake that hit the region of Christchurch on 22 February. PSI acknowledged "the courageous efforts of members of the emergency services, and all volunteers, including the many public services workers who have worked tirelessly in the rescue effort".

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## PSI job vacancy in Washington D.C.

Public Services International is looking for a suitably experienced person to work as a Subregional Coordinator for PSI North America (USA and Canada) on a part-time (80%) consultancy basis. S/he will be responsible for developing a strong relationship between PSI and its affiliates in Canada and the United States and will be responsible for developing PSI's work with the International Financial Institutions, in cooperation with the Washington office of the ITUC.

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