PSI World News

PUBLIC SERVICES INTERNATIONAL | May 2011

Quality Public Services—Action Now! campaign launches 23 June

Mark your calendar and join the mobilisation to defend and advance quality public services. Members of Public Services International, other global unions and our allies are joining together to launch the global Quality Public Services—Action Now! campaign on 23 June 2011, World Public Services Day. Find out how your union can get involved now! Download the campaign outreach pack, posters, and other resources here.

Vote to block water privatisation in Italy

Public Services International requests urgent assistance from unions and NGOs to help overturn plans for water privatisation in Italy. We ask trade unions in specific countries and cities to spread this message encouraging expatriate Italians to vote in Italy's upcoming referendum.
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Addressing precarious work in Algeria

The Algerian national committee for the integration of contract workers (CNICEP), a member of PSI's affiliate the National Union of Public Administration Workers (SNAPAP), held a meeting on 19 May where they discussed the precarious work situation in the country, especially as it affects young people.
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Czechs protest against government reforms

Some 48 000 people protested in the Czech capital on 21 May 2011 against government-proposed reforms that include attempts to cut pension and health care systems.
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Australian women a step closer to equal pay

Australian women are a step closer to achieving wage justice – thanks to recognition of the need for equal pay for the nation's social and community sector workers by Fair Work Australia, the national workplace relations tribunal.
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Global economic crisis opens up new space for discrimination at work, ILO says

In the new Global Report on Equality at Work 2011, the International Labour Organization notes that in spite of continuous positive advances in anti-discrimination legislation, the global economic and social crisis has led to a higher risk of discrimination against certain groups such as migrant labour.
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Canada's communities are not for sale!

PSI affiliate the Canadian Union of Public Employees, together with the Council of Canadians, has launched a national tour to oppose the proposed Europe/Canada trade deal called the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement. This tour will take place prior to the critical eighth round of CETA negotiations between Canada and the European Union in Brussels in July 2011.
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Send your nominations for the Febe Elizabeth Velasquez Trade Union Award

Every year, the Dutch trade union centre FNV presents this award to a trade union leader who has dedicated herself/himself to the protection of the union rights in those countries where union rights are still being violated.
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The clear benefits of the Welfare State

The Public and Commercial Services union, a PSI affiliate in the UK, says the welfare state should be "celebrated not destroyed" by the government's ideological ambitions. The union has published a pamphlet that sets out a decisive defence of welfare and the entitlement to universal support.
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TUC report: Civil Society and Public Services - Collaboration not Competition

This report by the British Trades Union Congress examines the case for public services, stating that universal access, delivery according to need, services free at the point of use, and services delivered for the public good rather than for profit should be at the heart of any model of service delivery.
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