

THEMATIC SESSION #2

REMUNICIPALISATION | PUBLIC SERVICES 2.0

15 October 2021 1-4pm CEST

Interpretation: ENGLISH, FRENCH, SPANISH¹

CONCEPT NOTE

Session I - Remunicipalisation: Reclaiming local public services for all



The growing trend of returning privatised services under public ownership and control is primarily taking place at a municipal level. All over the world, citizens, public authorities and labour unions have been mobilising to bring vital services and infrastructures back into public hands. LRG workers and unions play a critical role in these processes. The Covid crisis has emboldened collective demands for public investment in local public services and remunicipalisation.

Session II - Public Services 2.0: Democratic governance and participation in local public services

Remunicipalisation provides an opportunity to build a new generation of local quality public services that are innovative, participatory, accountable, democratic, and work for people and their communities. This vision must fully include workers and their trade unions. It provides a unique space to pioneer new, progressive staff management and worker participation practices while creating quality employment in local communities, all while delivering universal access to quality public services.



¹ PSI may consider interpretation into additional languages subject to registrations and budget constraints.

DRAFT AGENDA

13h00 -14h15 - Session I - Remunicipalisation: Reclaiming local public services for all (1h15')

Welcome and opening contributions:

- **Andrew Cumbers**, University of Glasgow, UK
- **Daniel Papps**, United Services Union (USU), Australia
- **Anand Jammu**, Nagpur Municipal Corporation Employees Union (NMCE), India
- **Kevin Donoghue**, FORSA, Ireland

Plenary discussion & affiliate consultation

14h15 -14h30 – Break (15')

14h30-15h45 - Public Services 2.0: Democratic governance and participation in local public services (1h15')

Welcome and opening contributions:

- **Eduarne Bagué**, Universitat de Girona, Spain
- **Romarc Montbobier**, CGT Eau de Paris, France

Plenary discussion & affiliate consultation

15h45-16h00 - Conclusions and next steps (15')

Guidance questions:

Remunicipalisation:

- What is the **current state of remunicipalisation** worldwide?
- How can **unions drive remunicipalisation/insourcing** campaigns?
- What are the major **obstacles** for LRG unions and how can they be **overcome**?
- How to **organise workers and communities** around remunicipalisation/insourcing?

Public Services 2.0:

- What forms of **democratic participation and governance** are trade unions involved in?
- What are the **positive aspects and the challenges** of participation in local public services?
- How can participation in local public services **improve service quality and access**?
- What is the potential of participation to **improve working conditions**?

Target audience:

- PSI affiliates' representatives
- Allied organisations
- Experts

Session format:

This session encompasses two segments of 1h15' each structured as follows:

- A first segment (1h15') with opening contributions by affiliate representatives and experts from allied organisations followed by a plenary debate with affiliates.
- A break (15')
- A second segment (1h15') with opening contributions by affiliate representatives and experts from allied organisations followed by a plenary debate with affiliates.
- Conclusions and action points will be drawn up at the end (15').
- The session will be facilitated by the PSI LRG Officer.

PSI HO staff provides technical support to the session.

Background documents for this session:

- Brief #5 - [Remunicipalisation and the Covid-19 pandemic](#)
- Brief #6 - Public Services 2.0: Democratic governance and participation in local public services (forthcoming)

Additional Resources:

Remunicipalisation:

- [Public Futures Database](#), Global Public Service de-privatisation database, 2020 U Glasgow-TNI-PSI
- Pearson, B., Paul, F., Cumbers, A., Stegemann, L., [Public Futures Database Report March 2021](#)
- USU Australia, [Council Services by Council Workers](#), Campaign
- CUPE Canada, [FixLongTermCare](#) Campaign
- FORSA Ireland, [More Power to You](#) Campaign
- French Energy Unions & Allies [Pour une énergie publique](#) Campaign
- FNME GCT, [Programme progressiste de l'énergie](#), 2020
- Wegmann, V., [Taking our public services back in house - A remunicipalisation guide for workers and trade unions](#), PSIRU-PSI, 2020
- Cibrario, D., [The Labour Dimension of Remunicipalisation. Public service workers and trade unions in transition](#), TNI-PSI 2020

Public Services 2.0:

- Hopman, Kishimoto, Russell, Valentin, [Democratic and collective ownership of public goods and services](#), TNI August 2021
- [When We Own it. A model for public ownership in the 21st century](#). We Own It, 2019
- Bagué, E., [La Remunicipalización del Agua en el marco de la Re-Definición de la Democracia: El Caso De Terrassa](#), 2020
- Satorras, M. Saurí, D. March H. [Reinventing Public Water amid Covid-19 in Terrassa](#), Municipal Services Project, 2020

For more information:

- Consult the [full programme](#) for LRGNext2021
- See the LRGNext2021 website: <https://psishort.link/LRGNext>
- Please write to PSI LRG and Municipal Services at: lrg-municipal@world-psi.org

