

# WATER SECURITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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#### "RIGHT2WATER"



- A EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE, A NEW TOOL "TO BRING CITIZENS CLOSER TO THE EUROPEAN UNION"
- TAKEN UP BY EUROPEAN PUBLIC SERVICE UNIONS AND WATER ACTIVISTS

DEMAND:

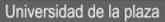
- IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHT TO WATER AND SANITATION IN EUROPEAN LAW
- STOP LIBERALIZATION AND PRIVATIZATION OF WATER SERVICES!







### FIGHTING PRIVATISATION OF WATER SERVICES



Charla - Coloquio La privatización del agua y los ríos

Pedro Arrojo

JUEVES, 27 DE FEBRERD 19,00 h. Facultad de Ciencias Humanas y de la Educación C/Valentin Cardenera, 4



<sup>per l'</sup>Acqua Bene Comune

www.referendumacqua.it













## UNITING DIVERSITY CREATED A MOVEMENT

 $\bigstar$ 

ngeniería In Fronteras

ustice

Water





"RIGHT2WATER" RESULTS



**1.9 MILLION SIGNATURES, 13 COUNTRIES** 

FIRST EVER SUCCESSFUL EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

✓ WATER TAKEN OUT OF EUROPEAN CONCESSION DIRECTIVE (2013)

✓ PARTLY RECOGNITION IN DRINKING WATER DIRECTIVE (2018)

- NO NEW EUROPEAN LAW; STRUGGLES CONTINUE

THE POOR SUFFER MOST,
EXAMPLES IN PORTUGAL, UK, A.O.

- "NO MONEY?" → "NO WATER!"
- PROFIT FIRST, PEOPLE SECOND
- HANDING OVER A MONOPOLY SERVICE TO A CORPORATION:

## © PRIVATIZATION OF WATER SERVICES IS A PROBLEM







## MORE PROBLEMS AFTER PRIVATIZATION

- ACCESS "NO MONEY NO WATER"
- AFFORDABILITY PROFIT OVER PEOPLE
- EQUALITY WIDENING GAP RICH-POOR, MARGINALIZATION
- ALSO IN PARTICIPATION, ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY (SEE E.G. UK, BERLIN, PARIS)



### HUMAN RIGHT TO WATER



- ACCESS, AVAILABLE, AFFORDABLE AND GOOD QUALITY FOR ALL
- PARTICIPATION, ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

PRIVATIZATION OF WATER SERVICES IS NOT COMPATIBLE WITH THE HUMAN RIGHT TO WATER!



#### A CLASH OF DISCOURSE AND VISIONS

Right2Water Movement	European Commission and (multinational) corporations in water
Common or Public good / Society	Commodity / Market
Justice and Solidarity	Efficiency and Competition
Affordability	Willingness to pay
Ownership and control in public hands	Ownership and management by corporations
Not for profit	Profit driven
Citizens and participation	Consumers and customer relations



- IF MARKET IDEOLOGY AND LOGICS DOMINATE, SECURITY WILL BE FOR WHO CAN PAY FOR IT
- POOR (PEOPLE) WILL SUFFER MOST FROM WATER STRESS, WHEREAS RICH (CORPORATIONS) ENSURE THEIR ACCESS TO AND CONTROL OVER WATER (SEE EXHIBITION ON CATALUNYA)

 CIVIL SOCIETY MUST ORGANIZE AND UNITE IN SOLIDARITY TO SAFEGUARD WATER, NATURAL RESOURCES AND A SOCIALLY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY JUST SOCIETY.