

Whose country is this anyway?

Why have you not heard of the SPP (Security and Prosperity Partnership)?

Situation: Do you know that a small group of private companies are meeting with the presidents of Mexico, the United States and Canada's Prime Minister behind closed doors to harmonize social, environmental, economic, security/ military policies with those of the U.S., even when it is to the detriment of the majority of Canadians?

Democratic debate and decision-making are being by-passed in order that powerful CEOs of numerous multinational corporations gain privileged access to propose and draft new policies/ rules that will undermine Canadian independence and human rights.

Why should you care? -- If they succeed, Canadian laws and Parliamentary democracy will be severely limited in trying to change the new rules.

The liberty of a democracy is not safe if the people tolerate the growth of private power to the point where it becomes stronger than the democratic state itself. That, in essence, is fascism-- ownership of government by an individual, by a group or any controlling private power.
(Franklin Delano Roosevelt)

Action on current SPP proposals would have these EFFECTS:

- mass exports of water and destruction of Canadian habitat
- mass exports of oil and gas even when Canadians need them
- lowering of environmental standards (eg. pesticides)
- greater pollution and destruction of the environment (eg. expanded tar sands production)
- continued takeover of family farms so Canadian food supply and quality controlled by large agri-business (eg. terminator seeds, bovine growth hormone)
- regulations that favour large business, though small businesses provide most employment in Canada
- more Canadian jobs lost to out-sourcing due to foreign takeovers and re-location of head office
- decrease in living standards for many (most?) Canadians
- Canadian military and security decisions based on American interests (eg. war in Afghanistan, no-fly lists)
- loss of human rights in Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (cf. Maher Arar)
- public health, education and cultural institutions at risk
- growth of the *prosperity gap* between rich and poor
- loss of lawful Canadian decision-making and control in favour of American and multinational interests

Is this what you as a Canadian want? --- Talk to your family and friends!

For more information:

- www.integratethis.ca *Too Close for Comfort* (M. Barlow)
- www.canadians.org *Globalization Isn't Working* (J.R. Saul)
- www.commonfrontiers.ca *Blue Gold* (T. Clarke, M. Barlow)
- www.policyalternatives.ca