

**SENATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE
REFERENCES COMMITTEE**

**INQUIRY INTO GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN
SERVICES AND AUSTRALIA/US FREE TRADE AGREEMENT**

SUBMISSION

Submission No: 113

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Submission to Senate Foreign Affairs,
Defence and Trade References Committee:

I send you this submission as a concerned individual.

The GATS (General Agreement on Trade in Services) Agreement spells the death of democracy. The GATS agreement marks the beginning of a complete global rule by private money. GATS marks the beginning of an era when the ordinary person no longer has a say in who provides their services and how they are being provided.

- The government which signs this agreement is betraying entirely the people of their nation and the whole idea of the nation as a sovereign entity controlled by and existing for its citizens, in favor of corporate or private monied interests. While the nation state has its flaws it at least represents a higher good than any one individual's personal gain. GATS erodes the national interest in favor of personal interest.

While refugees - the world's homeless - are feeling the full force of "national interest" and "border control" more aggressively and violently than at any other time in history, the super-wealthy elite are asking for those same borders and "national interests" to be relaxed so they can cross at will. I submit that the government relaxes the borders for the desperate, poor and needy and tightens them to protect the people's assets and welfare, and therefore rejects GATS.