

**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: 116

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on General Agreement on Trade in Services/US Free Trade Agreement, - with particular emphasis on terms of reference(e).

A number of us are concerned that GATS discussions seem to deal with the details and areas in which we are to lose Australia's self-government, rather than considering the matter in principle. Discussion of the principle should, as we understand it, involve a rejection of any loss of national sovereignty, economic or other.

All documentation and internet information reveal that GATS negotiations are all about details and never about this principle.

To take ARTICLE VI of GATS Annex 1B, "Domestic Regulation", for example--

It has the effrontery to direct supposedly sovereign nations, "Members", to institute various tribunals for the administration of domestic trade in services, but condescendingly grants the Member the right, in so doing, to adhere to its constitution and its legal system.

The mere heading, "Domestic Regulation", denoted by a foreign body, signifies in itself the death of Australia's prized self-government.

Why did we fight at Gallipoli, Kokoda and Burma? For Australia? Or for greedy transnational predators and their treasonous parliamentary sycophants (especially those who gave GATS legs in the 1994 Federal Parliament), who doff their colonial caps to their new unelected imperators, instead of to their Australian constituents?

Or is it for a cabal who have become inadvertant globalitarians (global totalitarians)? Or are they really inadvertant? The meticulous planning seems very advertant.

Another example you will not find documented, embargoed as it is in the type of secrecy deplored by Craig Emerson MP and Senator Kerry O'Brien, is the EC communique, "Ad Hoc 133 Committee-Services". It starts: "Member States are requested to ensure that this text is not made publicly available and is only circulated to the officials concerned." It then requests that further commitment as to services be increased and that Australia's limitations (reservations) in the matter of services be reduced. (In any case, at the end of the 2nd decade of GATS, all limitations upon which nations had insisted will forever be terminated.)

No arguments for the commercial advantages to Australia, gentlemen. You can't place exports on one side of the balance sheet and national sovereignty on the other, profits on one side (for whom?) and self-government on the other.

I submit that Australia cut all ties to GATS, that any agreements thereto be rescinded and that trading agreements, whether bi-lateral or other, be conducted under the full authority of the participants only: in other words, true "free trade", referring to the freedom of self-government, not to the freedom of deep-pocketed transnationals to pillage.

Thank you,

Laurence Magerty.

L. Magerty

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