

ORGANIZINGFORPOWER



“I’m really thrilled that this training happened. Everything that’s taught in it is important to me, and is going to get more and more important for PSI.

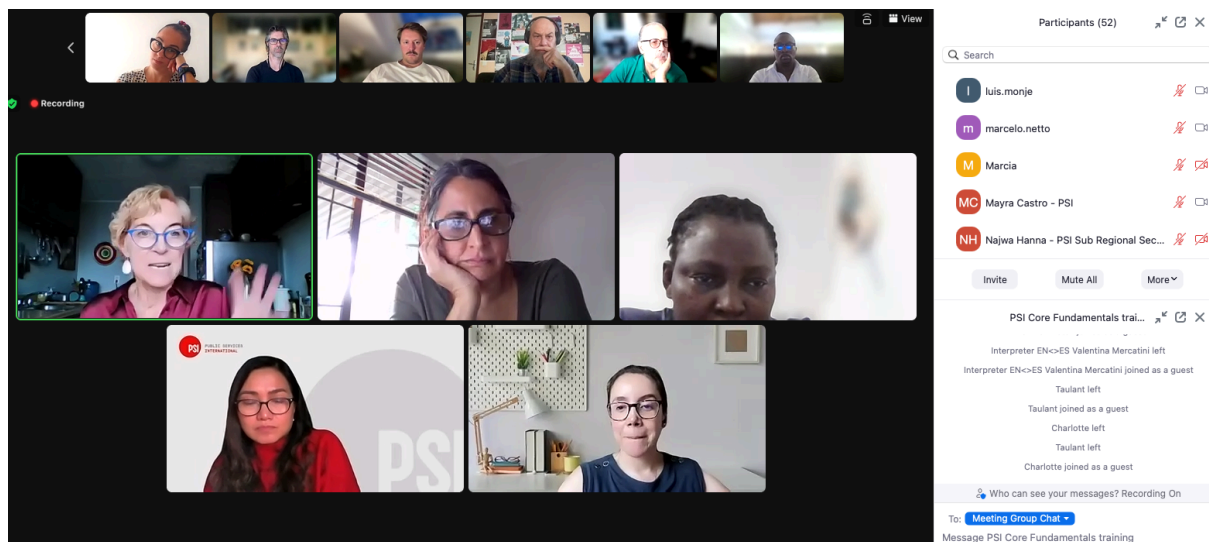
This course is about how you build power in a practical sense, how you build worker power in the workplace.”

- Daniel Bertossa, General Secretary, Public Services International

Public Services International: O4P’s newest graduate!

By Ethan Earle, 12 February 2024

Organizing for Power (O4P) - an online skills-based program offered by [Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung](#) (RLS), which has trained more than 35,000 people in 1,400+ organizations coming from over 110 countries since 2019 - recently concluded a week-long intensive training for [Public Services International](#) (PSI), a global union federation representing 30 million public services workers in 700 unions across 154 countries. Together, O4P and PSI took a step forward in the fight to defend, strengthen and expand public services across the world!



O4P Lead Trainer Jane McAlevey leads a Day 1 fishbowl with 4 members of PSI’s staff from across the globe.

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“As responsible for a PSI sub region, the training is directly connected to my work. **I feel enlightened.**”

- Najwa Hanna, sub regional secretary for Arab Countries, PSI

Over four days of intensive sessions, O4P gave a special version of its Core Fundamentals training, instructing PSI staff on organizing methods including leader identification, semantics, structured organizing conversations, charting, and structure tests - and how to best incorporate these methods into the particular nature of their work as a global union federation. The training was prepared by O4P lead trainer and talisman Jane McAlevey and program coordinator Ethan Earle - in close coordination with PSI's newly anointed General Secretary [Daniel Bertossa](#) - and was led by McAlevey alongside senior O4P trainers plus brand-new trainers from PSI's staff.

All 45 members of PSI staff from the Americas, Europe, Africa and the Middle East were present (the timing making it impossible for Asia-based staff). This means that *everybody* - from the Assistant General Secretary, to regional and thematic program officers, to administrative staff and secretaries - came together, not just to teach new skills but to help PSI build a shared language and culture, an organizing *ethos* to pervade all of their varied work supporting public service unions across the globe.



PSI General Secretary Daniel Bertossa leads a closing discussion on how to incorporate lessons learned to PSI's work.

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“My current thoughts are to include [leader id] into upcoming sessions with 2 affiliates [plus] some lessons into the sub-regional meetings later this year. Our sub-regional meetings in the Caribbean have a strong trade union education and training focus. **Organizing was the missing bit.**

I am also working on putting together groups of members from affiliates in the Caribbean to participate in the upcoming O4P training starting May 7th.”

- Sandra Massiah, Sub regional secretary for the Caribbean, PSI

Public Services International spent the week following this training in a full-staff retreat, discussing strategic objectives for their new General Secretary's five-year term period. Organizing was at the heart of many of these discussions, with the organization planning how to take a more combative approach in its work, not just to defend public services against privatization, deregulation, and austerity, but to simultaneously open offensive flanks in this important struggle.

From here, the global union will go into a series of sub-regional meetings with its 700 affiliates, where the practical details of working collaborations will be decided. Again, the methodical, class-struggle orientation to organizing taught in the O4P program will feature prominently in these talks. From tax justice initiatives, to membership drives, to campaigns for public ownership, O4P looks forward to accompanying these victories to come!

For Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung, this collaboration marks another proud chapter in the foundation's longstanding commitment to public services, the working classes, and the planet that we share. RLS looks forward to welcoming PSI affiliates alongside hundreds of other organizations to O4P's flagship six-week training on [The Core Fundamentals](#) of organizing, scheduled for May-June 2024, and to continuing its support for PSI's critical work going forward.

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Political conditions in the world right now are difficult - between old and new wars, a burning planet, and a rising far right - but despair and isolation only strengthen those enemies of humanity currently marauding the globe. To replace a vicious cycle of defeat with a virtuous circle of winning, progressive and left movements must come together, wielding the power of our numbers and building disciplined majorities capable of credibly threatening and extracting real and lasting concessions from bad bosses, cynical politicians, and other haters of humanity. We have a world to win, but the time is now, so let's get to it!



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ROSA LUXEMBURG STIFTUNG

THE CORE FUNDAMENTALS

Graduation Certificate

January 29 - February 2, 2024

Presented to

Public Services International

This certificate recognizes successful completion of an intensive week-long iteration of O4P's Core Fundamentals program, specially adapted to the organizational needs of Public Services International as a global union federation.


Jane McAlevey, Lead Trainer


Ethan Earle, Program Coordinator

"The working classes in every country only learn to fight in the course of their struggles."
- Rosa Luxemburg -