

RIGHT² WATER

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

1PM

10.12.14

DÁIL ÉIREANN
MERRION STREET
DUBLIN 2

WATER IS A HUMAN RIGHT

Right2Water: Who are we?

Right2Water is a citizens' campaign. We believe that water is a human right, and we are seeking the abolition of domestic water charges.

Water charges: Still unfair

Water is a basic human need, and our human right to water must not be turned into a commodity – available to those with money, but restricted or unavailable to those without.

It is that principle, and the demand for abolition of domestic water charges, that brought over 100,000 people out onto the streets of Dublin on October 11th, and over 150,000 onto the streets of suburbs, town and villages around Ireland on November 1st.

People power forced the Government to climb down – but they still haven't abolished water charges.

“We asked for abolition – not concessions”

Now, they have introduced a flat rate charge – basically, a home tax – which means that a poor household living in rented accommodation in a deprived area will pay the same as an affluent household owning a home in an affluent suburb.

What comes after the cap?

Like all introductory offers – buyer beware! The Government has capped water charges until 2019 – but then what? International experience shows they will rise and rise

Irish Water – or private water?

Water should be a public good rather than a private commodity. Notwithstanding the Government's assurances, the formation of Irish Water opens the door to future privatisation of our water supply and an inevitable increase in charges – as has been the case with bin services.

What can you do?

If you believe that water is a human right and the charges should be abolished, visit www.right2water.ie for information on how you can get involved.

And come out at 1 pm on December 10th – International Human Rights Day – to join a National Assembly outside Dail Eireann.

We've already shown what people power can do. Now, let's continue working together for the complete abolition of domestic water charges!