

The World Water Forum, which is organized and controlled by the World Water Council, will be held in Istanbul on March 16-22. The Council of Canadians will join a coalition of activists and hold counter events in Istanbul to protest the World Water Forum's stance on **water privatization** and to advocate water as a human right. While the World Water Forum has long touted the **privatization of municipal water systems** as a means of improving the welfare of communities in need, the reality is that water is being used to generate profit rather than to slake the world's growing thirst. The privatization of municipal water systems has caused conflicts around the world, and communities that have sold their water rights have faced limited access to water, higher tariffs, and poor water quality.