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El Salvador: Public Employees & Teachers Protest Government's Privatization Initiative

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Aug. 29 in San Salvador, an estimated 20,000 public employees participated in a demonstration protesting the government's economic program. On the same day, public school teachers launched a nation-wide work stoppage. The demonstration and work stoppage were part of a broad-based campaign organized by trade union organizations against the government's privatization program. According to union leaders, privatization efforts have led to the dismissal of over 15,000 employees. For days prior to the demonstration, government officials made public statements accusing the unions of "links" to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front. (Basic data from AFP, 08/29/91)

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