Canada/EU FTA and the NAFO link

Written by Scott Parsons Monday, 24 January 2011 20:10

We have long been puzzled by the haste with which the Harper government sold out Canadian fisheries interests to secure a deal on NAFO with the EU. There was no apparent gain for Canada and considerable long-term loss. For the EU on the other hand the deal removed a long-standing irritant in bilateral relations. Now we learn that a Free Trade Agreement with the EU is imminent This raises the question: did the Harper government sell out on the NAFO issue in order to faciltate reaching the FTA with the EU? If the answer is Yes, then Atlantic Canadians, and Newfoundlanders in particular, should be outraged. And so should Parliament where the majority of MPs voted in December to reject the NAFO Amendments, only to have the government announce the very next day that Canada would ratify the Amendments, exercising complete contempt for the role and will of Parliament.

TAGS: NAFO, Atlantic fisheries, overfishing, sustainable, fisheries, Harper government, Canada- EU Free Trade Agreement

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