



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Government lawyers move to exclude Canadians from Galloway court challenge Documents argue citizens have ‘no standing’ in opposing ban**

TORONTO , Mar. 27 – Organizers of the pan-Canadian speaking tour of banned British MP George Galloway have learned that government lawyers will seek to exclude submissions by Canadian citizens during a federal court hearing this weekend. Lawyers representing the Ministries of Public Safety and Citizenship and Immigration have filed a 13-page motion attempting to bar Canadian citizens who have submitted affidavits opposing Mr. Kenney’s ban. Trade union and student union leaders, professionals, and peace campaigners were among those who submitted affidavits.

“The government’s legal approach represents yet another attack on free speech in Canada,” says James Clark, one of the organizers of Mr. Galloway’s speaking tour. “First, Mr. Kenney bans Mr. Galloway from Canada , restricting the rights of Canadians to hear his views. And now they’re telling us we have no right to challenge the ban in the courts. What will Mr. Kenney try to ban next?”

The hearing is scheduled to take place on Sunday, March 29 at 11:00am at Federal Court, 180 Queen Street West, in Toronto. Mr. Galloway’s lawyers are seeking an injunction on the ban by Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Jason Kenney, in order to allow Mr. Galloway to enter Canada until a judicial review is heard.

Mr. Galloway’s legal team received the cross-motion on Friday, March 27.

“We should all be alarmed by government attempts to block Canadian citizens from the legal challenge,” says Denis Lemelin, President of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers. “We have a right to challenge Mr. Kenney’s ban on George Galloway, and our voices should be heard in the public and the courts.”

A copy of the government’s cross-motion is available at [www.defendfreespeech.ca](http://www.defendfreespeech.ca).

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