

**NEB Resolution – Ballistic Missile Defence**

WHEREAS the U.S. government's planned Ballistic Missile Defence system has been the matter of much debate in Canada, and around the world; and

WHEREAS U.S. President George W. Bush during his recent visit to Canada urged the Canadian government to support the BMD; and

WHEREAS the federal government has not allowed a full debate on this matter in Parliament and refuses to say where it stands on this matter; and

WHEREAS Canada has a history of respecting arms control, unlike the U.S. government; and

WHEREAS the BMD initiative is a unilateral move by the U.S. government and Canada has a tradition of multilateralism in terms of international affairs; and

WHEREAS the BMD is an escalation in the global arms race and the beginning of the weaponization of space; and

WHEREAS Canadians want their federal government to maintain Canadian sovereignty and independence in matters of foreign policy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CUPE's National Executive Board reaffirm our convention policy opposition to the BMD system and the weaponization of space; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CUPE's National Executive Board call upon the federal government to allow a full and open debate on the BMD system in the Canadian Parliament; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CUPE's National Executive Board actively lobby the federal government to reject the BMD system and to fully support the NDP Caucus and the Bloc Québécois Caucus in its opposition to the BMD system through the course of open debate in parliament.

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