



What could David do against this coalition of private interests and failed politics?

1. The first challenge was to force the secret contract to be published as only then it would be possible to fight this contract in the courts.

We called a referendum to have the contract published – even though no previous referendum had ever been won in Berlin. It took 5 years' hard work on our part (2006-2011), but in the end we won!



How were we able to win?

- Water is a common. Not a commodity. So it cannot be a source of private profit. This is self-evident to every normal human being.
 Water is a fundamental human right. We didn't have to explain this to the people on the street.
- 2. The Berlin Water Table is and always has been an open forum for engaged citizens, but it wasn't a formal coalition of the many social groups involved (ecologists, political parties, trade unions, etc.). Many of us are members of one organisation or another, but when we work together it is not as delegates, but purely for our own interest in water as a human right.
 - So we are strong because everybody is able to contribute to our fight. We have no office, no paid secretary, rely on donations and are all volunteers.

WE ARE THE SOVEREIGN



Goliath is so big! How did we overcome our sense of resignation?

1. We learned from other countries:

- From Bolivia where the indigenous people threw the American corporation Bechtel our of their country
- From Argentine where they threw out Suez
- From Paris where they ended the contracts with Suez and Veolia and remunicipalised Eau de Paris.

