

# **Towards meaningful solidarity? Union democracy too?**

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As readers of New Politics and/or my new book probably know, I'm not bashful about criticizing the politics and policies of the international confederation of teachers unions, the Education International (EI). So what does it mean that the EI has just published my blog about what EI should be doing - but isn't? Is this a rhetorical shift meant to allay critics who are pressing for real leadership against what Leo Panitch and Sam Gindin describe in their (must-read) book as "the new American empire"? Or does it mean that the AFT and NEA leadership is beginning to think about allowing real democracy in the unions? Readers, your thoughts?