

MEDIA RELEASE	Freedom Day: PSA calls for protection of South Africa's freedoms and pursuit of economic self-reliance
DATE	26 April 2025
EMBARGO	None
ENQUIRIES	communication@psa.co.za

On Freedom Day, the Public Servants Association (PSA) calls on the South African government to safeguard the hard-fought gains that are the foundation of the country's democracy.

These freedoms, attained through decades of sacrifice, must be protected and upheld through policies that promote equality, social justice, and good governance. The PSA further urges government to prioritise economic self-reliance by fostering local industries, creating sustainable jobs, and reducing dependency on foreign influence. True freedom, apart from political rights, entails ensuring that every South African has access to economic opportunities, quality public services, and a dignified livelihood.

Freedom Day on 27 April marks the triumph of democracy over oppression where unions, including the PSA, stood at the forefront of the battle for workers' rights, fair wages, and eliminating workplace discrimination. Unions provided a platform for workers to challenge oppressive laws and contributed to the reform of workers' rights. The labour movement was instrumental in securing the rights enshrined in the South African Constitution, ensuring that all citizens, regardless of race, gender, or class, have a voice in shaping the nation's future.

The PSA urges government to take decisive actions in safeguarding South Africa. These include combatting wasteful and fruitless expenditure, as well as crime, fraud, and corruption, which are crippling the country's infrastructure and deterring potential foreign investment.

A nation's strength lies in the well-being, knowledge, and security of its people. Investing in quality healthcare ensures that all citizens receive the medical care they need, strengthening individual lives and the productivity of the workforce. Education remains a cornerstone of progress, equipping future generations with the skills and opportunities to break the cycle of poverty and drive innovation. At the same time, safety and security are fundamental to preserving these freedoms as no society can thrive when its citizens live in fear. A country that prioritises these essential services builds a foundation for sustainable growth, social stability, and a future where the promise of democracy translates into real freedom and opportunities for all.

The pursuit of true freedom continues, calling for unity and vigilance to preserve the gains South Africa has made since 1994.

END