



To: Pampis Kyritsis, the general secretary WFTU Members of World Federation of Trade Unions

Following the 18th WFTU Congress in Rome, we write to express our solidarity and are very pleased that international workers' organizations continue to emphasize the need for a collective effort to confront the intolerable conditions that capitalist governments across the globe are imposing on workers' lives.

Today, all sections of the world working class are well aware that only organized and united struggle can oppose economic austerity and improve conditions in favour to the working people.

Unfortunately, over the past 40 years, Iranian workers have been denied their fundamental right to form their own independent organizations. You are well aware that over the years Iranian labour activists have been arrested, imprisoned or fired whenever they have attempted to form their own independent organizations or to protest against the terrible working conditions in Iran.

As we write this letter, a number of labour activists and organisers are being held in prisons across the Islamic Republic of Iran. They are being imprisoned for working to form labour organization or protest low wages, authority and casualisation of their working conditions.

It is beyond any dispute that the "Workers' House" and the "Islamic Councils", which are Iranian government backed, funded, and affiliated have opposed formation of any independent labour organizations in order to protect the interests of the ruling class in Iran. Iranian workers' real representatives are either in prison or being persecuted by the security forces of the Islamic government.

It is part of employers' efforts to maintain a fragmented working class as a means to maintain low wages while undermining any workplace minimum standards by encouraging temporary and zero-hour contracts in all industries in Iran.

The government and its affiliated agencies such as the "Workers' House" and the "Islamic Councils" have been working to prevent Iranian workers forming trade unions.



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We write to express our regret that Mr. Alireza Mahjoub, Secretary of the Iranian government affiliated "Workers' House", was present in 18th WFTU Congress as a representative of Iranian workers, and it is even more regrettable that he has allowed to stand elected Vice President of the WFTU.

During the past 40 years, Alireza Mahjoub as the secretary general of the Workers' House, an institution affiliated with the Iranian government has played a very prominent role in formulating and advocating policies for the government while actively preventing formation of any independent trade unions in Iran.

You will recall that on May 10, 2005, members of the Workers' House along with the armed security forces and led by the spokesperson of the Workers' House, raided the offices of the independent Tehran Bus Company Union, ransacked the union office, saluted, and arrested the union members and attempted to set fire to the union office

In addition, Alireza Mahjoub has been one of the top advisers to government ministers in charge of implementation of neoliberal economic policies for the past 30 years.

He has been an adviser to Prime Minister Mousavi since 1981 and to President Rafsanjani, the main architect of Iran's neoliberal economy, since 1989.

Alireza Mahjoub, as a member of the Islamic Parliament, which does not flow democratic elections, was a member of the Labour and Social Security Commission from 1996 to 2020, he has played a key role in changes in labour laws in Favour of employers including drafting and adoption of privatization laws.

For the past 40 years Alireza Mahjoub, as a leader of a government backed agency has worked to prevent emergence of any independent labour organization in Iran.

We, the signatories of this letter, Iranian labour activists, express our support for the approach of the new WFTU Secretary-General to counter the political and ideological influence of the dominant capitalist groupings, and are very hopeful about the future of workers' organization, which is the main prerequisite for workers struggle to improve the condition of the global working class for a better future, however we must ask how could WFTU tolerate Mr. Mahjoub presence and election as WFTU Vice President?

The very government affiliated individual who has a chequered history of anti-labour activities!

We request, that the Secretary General and WFTU members review the membership of the Workers' House and disaffiliate any government backed agencies and set up a committee to review the representation of Iranian workers and facilitate participation of independent Iranian Trade Unions in WFTU!

Yours sincerely

2022-05-20

Solidarity Committees with Iranian Workers Movement (AWNI)

Campaign in Support Iranian Workers (CSIW)

Cooperation Council with the Workers' Alternative in Iran

A mass protest rally of Qorveh residents against the construction of a factory on agricultural lands

On Wednesday, April 15th, a group of Qorveh residents gathered at the site to build a factory on agricultural land. The demonstrators told a media reporter that in 1992, the Zagros steel plant was shut down on the pretext that it was unprofitable and about 400 people were directly unemployed. They added: "In 1998, Mohammad Shariatmadari, the former Minister of Labor, started a new factory in a barren area and it was planned to start the construction of a factory in this area, which was welcomed by the people, but after a few months of construction." The factory stopped.

They continued: In 1999, the construction of another factory on a part of the agricultural lands of this region began. Hundreds of households make a living

from working on these lands, and the construction of factories on these agricultural lands destroys the lives of the people and farmers of this region. The protesters added: those in charge of building a new factory obtained a document from natural resources, which was annulled after the residents protested and registered their complaint in Branch Seven of Sanandaj Court. They said that after the revocation of the document, the natural resources protested again and the activities on these lands started again. They razed the wheat that the people had planted and planted on these lands with a loader. The demonstrators concluded: "There is another fertile ground for the construction of the factory. The location of the Zagros steel plant is in the best position, but we do not know why they want to destroy the agricultural lands in order to build the plant.



Workers on the Adish Kangan refinery strike to protest wage increases

Project workers at Adish Kangan refinery go on strike to protest non-wage increase

Today, Friday, April 17, 1401, about 400 project workers working at the Adish Kangan refinery, employed by Mobin Sanat and Peyman Kari Membini, resigned in protest of the non-increase of wages for the new year and settled collectively.

Workers on the company's projects demanded a 57 percent increase in wages yesterday, but the contractor only agreed to a 10 percent increase in workers' wages, with about 400 workers resigning and settling accounts in protest of the non-wage increase. .



Gachsaran Oil and Gas Exploitation Company Workers Protest Against Return of Working Hours to Before Corona

On Monday, April 12, a group of employees of the Gachsaran Oil and Gas Exploitation Company gathered in front of the company's headquarters to protest the return of working hours to before the crown. "Before Corona, there were eight-hour shifts (12 working days and four days off) for employees, but with the outbreak of coronary heart disease, there were 12-hour shifts (four working days and four days)," one employee told a media reporter. Rest), which is supposed to return to the pre-Corona era in the coming days. Several workers said: "We are more satisfied with the 12-hour shift, and if our demands are not met, we will continue the rallies." They added: "Considering the long distance of the operational areas and taking advantage of the 12-hour shift, it can be more effective for the employees." The protesters noted the return of their working hours to pre-Corona times: "The 12 working hours we are considering will save both staff transportation and reduce road hazards."



Workers' Union of Tehran and Suburbs Bus Company: Non-payment of pensioners' claims and action of security agents by sending threatening messages to suppress the nationwide protests of retirees

As the protests of retirees, workers, teachers, and other lower classes spread, and these protests became widespread, the government's men have no plan or intention to pay their demands, so government, government and security agents suppress the protesters. This time, they are trying to silence the protests by sending mass text messages via mobile phones and cyberspace to users of Telegram groups.

Security text message threatening security agents:

"Warning:

Opposition movements and intelligence services intend to exploit the union rallies and issue numerous calls in this regard. Therefore, they are warned to refrain from republishing the call and participating in rallies. Obviously, if you see your Excellency in the gatherings, there will be legal action.

The violent behavior of security agents on 21 and 22 April 1401 with Social Security retirees in front of the parliament and telecommunications retirees in Argentina Square shows the government's inattention to pay claims and full use of repressive tools. The trade union of Vahed Company, considering the approach of May 1 (May 11), which is International Workers' Day, considers it an opportunity for workers, teachers, retirees, wage earners and all the lower classes to stand united against oppression, corruption, and discrimination in the country. Let us unite that the solution for the toilers is unity and organization



June 2, 2022

Workers of Azarab factory who have been on strike from April 21st, 2022, for not receiving their salaries from two month ago blocked the office of management on Tuesday May 31, 2022, and did let the manager go to his office. Following this action management deposited one month of salaries into workers accounts.



With a court ruling the Haft Tappeh tomato paste factory was handed to Asad Beigi. This vote is a result of the corrupt Raisi government and judiciary. Montazeri the country corrupt prosecutor was the major supporter of this vote. Asad Beigi owes millions of dollars but with the assistance of the government and judiciary and large bribes has acquired part of Haft Tappeh company. He has no claim on the company but owes millions of dollars. This was not possible without assistance of Naseri. Workers of Haft Tappeh will not allow the transfer of ownership of Haft Tappeh tomato paste factory to Asad Beigi or anyone else. WE will thwart this anti action of Raisi-Ezhei and corrupt Montazeri. If we stay silent on this issue, they will plunder the rest of the company. We will protect the achievements of our many years of struggle. Following our protest today the representatives of judiciary and police fled. From today on you will face all Haft Tappeh workers.

Long live united Haft tappeh workers

June 5, 2022

Reihaneh Ansari Nezhad's one-month temporary detention will end in five days. This is while two weeks have passed since the deposit of one billion Tooman set by prison guards. But according to the second branch of Evin court Reyhaneh's interrogator prevented her release. The security-judiciary system is an integral part of the whole unit, and such statements of the judiciary are only to absolve of responsibility.



With unity and cooperation

Abort the Islamic Republic's conspiracy of taking hostage the workers and teachers of Iran!

The political prisoners' lives are in danger!

For the past 40 days, the capitalist Islamic Republic, has taken hostage, a number of social activists, working for the welfare and freedom of Iranian citizens.

The meeting of two members of the French Teachers' syndicate in Tehran (*Ms. Cecil Coler*, and *Mr. Jaqque Pari*), with a number of members of Teachers' Guild council and Wahed Syndicate Company, all of them have been arrested, charged with "espionages and rioting", imprisoned and have been subjected to the most severe pressure and all kinds of interrogations and tortures.

Mr. Eskandar Lotfi, a member of the board of directors of the Kurdistan- Marivan Teachers' Guild Council and the speaker of the Coordinating Council of Iranian Teachers' Guild, went on hunger strike from the beginning and *Mr. Asghar Amirzadehganand* and a number of other teachers, went on a hunger strike, in support of *Mr. Eskandar Lotfi* and now that a month has passed since their temporary arrest and detention, the workers and teachers are still imprisoned.

Reza Sahabi, has gone on an indefinite hunger strike, announcing: "I have come here standing and I will leave horizontally".

Connecting the meeting of the Wahed Syndicate with their French counterparts, to the security issues, and filing a case against them, is to overcome the conditions in which the Islamic regime is involved. Not far away, we witnessed, that in the long strike of the Haft Tappeh and Ahwaz Foulad (Steel) Workers and the TV show "Burnt plan". In the new joke, two "foreign elements", *Ms. Coler and Mr. Pari*, the French Syndicate guests are also taken hostage. The use of these security shows by the regime, stems from the fact that the social protests in Iran are spreading every day and the fields of coordination of different sectors of society are growing constantly.

Along with the daily protests of the workers in various sectors of production and services, the gatherings, and protests of the teachers, as well as the regular demonstrations of retirees, are spreading.

The tone of protests, as well as the demands and slogans among the various sections, are becoming more uniform.

Such conditions for the Islamic regime, which responded with bullets in December 2017, and November 2019, are not tolerable. Organizing social protests and turning them into a social movement, is a wakeup call for the Islamic Republic as a whole.

Despite such conditions in Iran, those abroad, need the cooperation of the accompanying associations, with the self-reliant social protests among workers, teachers, and retirees, which has increased significantly.

It is our responsibility, that with all means at our disposal and facilities in a united and coordinated and nationwide and global movement, to neutralize the conspiracy of taking hostage the French guests, the arresting of workers, teachers, and torturing and physical elimination of them by the Islamic Republic.

We must use street rallies, to appeal to the progressive international media and labor organizations, and other forms of activities, which in the current situation, can be effective.

Solidarity Committees with Iranian Workers Movement-abroad

June 2022

<https://alternativeworkersnews.wordpress.com/>

www.alternativeworkersnewsiran.org

An open letter to Delegates at the 110th Session of the International Labour Conference Geneva, 27 May-11 June 2022

We, the undersigned, are calling on the Delegate at the 110th Session of the International Labour Conference, and in particular the workers' delegates, about the recent brutal repression of teachers and other trade union activists in Iran.

Over the years, especially in recent months, the Iranian government's economic policies have created widespread poverty and misery for the general public, especially workers. This situation has created a wide class divide, shrinking the livelihood of the general public, and eventually led to public protests.

It is unfortunate that instead of responding appropriately and solving the problems, the government has reacted brutally to these legal protests, and their response has been nothing but widespread repression.

One of the various aspects of the crackdown is the attack on and arrest of well-known union activists, teachers, workers, and many other protesting people. Recently, in a false scenario, a "pseudo-report" was published on state radio and television (Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting) against well-known teachers and workers' activists who are the legal and respected representatives of their sectors. In this "pseudo-report", a desperate and baseless attempt was made to accuse Iranian trade union activists of collaborating with foreign "spies".

The release of this government-made plot against trade union activists immediately met with a wave of protest and disgust throughout Iran.

We are asking delegates at the 110th Session of the International Labour Conference to condemn the Iranian government's escalating violation of all teachers' rights, workers' rights and in particular the violation of the right to association and the violation of the right to peaceful demonstration.

This is an urgent matter because since May Day, a number of trade union activists have been arrested and are being interrogated and charged with serious but completely false and baseless national security charges only to suppress the independent trade union movement and the rightful protests of the toiling and oppressed people in Iran. These violations of fundamental workers' rights are taking place while the government of Iran is part of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office.

Many members of the teachers' trade associations, Tehran bus workers' syndicate, and members of other independent trade union organizations, as well as the protesting people, have been persecuted, arrested, and incarcerated for engaging in legitimate workers' and trade union activities.

We are calling on the delegates to condemn the Iranian government's repression of the independent trade unions and their members. We are asking the delegates at the International Labour Conference to convey to the government delegates from Iran their denunciation of these repressive measures and call on the Iranian government to take all necessary measures for the immediate and unconditional release of all teachers and other trade union activists, and stop repressions of workers, trade unionists, and protesting people, and respect freedom of association and trade union rights under ILO Convention 87 and 98 and The ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. It is necessary to emphasize that, unfortunately, the independent trade unions of Iran do not have any representatives at the International Labour Conference, and the "delegates" who are the representatives of the "trade unions" participating from Iran are also sponsored by the government.

The government of Iran must immediately and unconditionally release all jailed teachers and trade union activists who have been arrested since May Day 2022, including Rasoul Bodaghi, Eskandar Lofi, Reza Shahabi, Jafar Ebrahimi, Hassan Saeidi, Anisha Asadollahi, Reyhaneh Ansarinejad, Mohammad Habibi, Keyvan Mohtadi, Shaban Mohammadi, Masoud Nikkhah, Rez Amanifar, Hadi Sadeghzadeh, Mohammad

Alishvandi, Asghar_Amirzadegan, Mehrdad Yaghmaei, Afshin Razmjoo, Gholamreza Gholamikandazi, Hamid Abbasi, Abdolrazaq Amiri, Mohammad Ali Zahmatkesh, Mohsen Bahrami, Morteza Mohammadi,

and many others like Hashem Khastar, who has been in prison for many years, despite his illness and old age, he is not even given medical leave.

We also strongly demand an end to the ongoing detention and harassment of other trade union and labour activists serving sentences, including the imprisoned teacher Esmail Abdi, who is currently serving another 10 years in prison after completing a six-year sentence, who was charged in 2010, and Hashem Khastar, who has been in prison for many years, and despite his illness and old age he is not even given medical leave.

Moreover, the sentences and charges against the following women teachers, who have already been incarcerated for protesting against the government's educational policies, must be annulled and they must be released immediately: Zeinab Hamrang, Alieh Aghdamdoost, Haleh Safarzadeh, Nahid Fath'alian, Nosrat Beheshti, Masoumeh Askari and Mojgan Bagheri.

We, the signatories of this letter, also specifically request the labor delegations participating at the International Labour Conference to include the following urgent items on the agenda of the meeting, and we insist to do their best to approve and implement them:

- Unconditional and immediate drop of all charges against imprisoned trade unionists, and release of all detainees.
- To oblige the Iranian government to respect and uphold the rights of all workers including teachers to organize and to freedom of association and freedom of speech including the right to peaceful assembly, without fear of state intervention.
- Considering dispatching an international delegation to Iran under the coordination of the Working Group of the International Labour Organization and the global trade union federations to examine the labor force conditions in Iran, meet with independent trade unions and visit imprisoned trade union activists and their families
- Requesting the dismissal of the representatives of the Iranian government from the governing board of the International Labor Organization and not supporting their re-election in this board due to the continuous violation of international labour conventions and lack of accountability for the ongoing repression of trade unions and labour activists in Iran.

Coordinating Council of Iranian Teachers' trade Associations [Contact the author of the petition](#)

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About us:

"The Committee in Solidarity with the Iranian workers Movement -Abroad" of solidarity groups and individuals outside of Iran that support Iranian Workers'. Struggle for:

- (1) Democratic rights and economic. Justice;
- (2) Exposing anti- labour policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran; .
- (3) Building bridges between the Iranian and international workers'movement.

Contact us : solidarityciwm@gmail.com