

Cairo Water Workers' Union sends solidarity to the HE pay strike

Solidarity from the Cairo Water Company Workers' Union for the UCU / Unite / UNISON strike on 31 October:

"The Independent union of workers in the Cairo Drinking Water Company declares its solidarity with the workers' movement in Britain and its solidarity with colleagues who are taking strike action on 31 October in the universities because of pay cuts over recent years. We are one workers' movement across the globe and our demands are united - bread, freedom and social justice. We wish you success in winning your demands

Independent Union of Workers in the Cairo Drinking Water Company"



About MENA Solidarity

MENA Solidarity Network's campaigns take inspiration from workers' struggles in the Arab world back into the trade unions here in order to strengthen our own strikes and protests. We are supported by three national trade unions, NUT, PCS and UCU, plus a number of trades councils and union branches. Our steering committee includes MPs John McDonnell and Katy Clark, and activists from the NUT, NUJ, RMT, UCU, UNITE and BMA. NUT Conference last year voted to affiliate to MENA Solidarity.

We've been active since 2011 in mobilising solidarity for teachers' struggles in the wake of the Arab revolutions, organising campaigns in support of jailed Bahraini teachers' leaders Jalila al-Salman and Mahdi Abu-Deeb, and building links with Tunisian teaching union activists.

Why not get your union branch to affiliate?
Find out more online.

Resistance grows to anti-protest laws in Egypt

Egyptian trade unionists, including the Water Workers union, are campaigning against the military clampdown on protests and strikes.

A draft law which demands that protesters give notice of planned demonstrations, and allows the police to create exclusion zones in front of key government buildings and other regular protest sites is beginning to stir resistance among trade unionists and revolutionary activists.

Leading trade unionists backing the campaign against the law include transport worker activist Ismail Al-Ashari, Nagi Rashad from the South Cairo Grain Mills, and Mohamed Hardan, president of the Cairo Drinking Water Company Workers Union. They joined a rally against the law on 22 October in downtown Cairo. Hundreds of protesters also joined a march against the new law through Cairo on 26 October.

The gathering protests against the new law come after months of a vicious clampdown which has seen well over 1,000 killed by the security forces and army in an attempt to crush protests in support of deposed president Mohamed Morsi. Thousands have also been arrested and detained. University campuses have been a particular target for repression, with mass arrests of students and dozens of academics also reportedly detained.

What you can do:

- **Print out posters and leaflets to distribute and send us a solidarity picture via [Facebook](#) or Twitter (@menasolidarity)**
- **Pass a resolution in your union branch condemning the anti-protest law**
- **Send a letter of protest to the Egyptian embassy, 26 South Street, London, W1K 1DW**

**Find out more here: Website: www.menasolidaritynetwork.com □ Twitter: [@menasolidarity](#)
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/mena.solidarity> □ Email: menasolidarity@gmail.com**