

**DIRECT****ACTION**

Industrial Workers of the World

An Injury To One - Is An Injury To All!

# SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINE WORKERS: CEASEFIRE NOW!



**ON THE STREETS:  
IWW PALESTINE SOLIDARITY, DERRY**

International solidarity demonstrations have been held across the world to mark the 76th Nakba anniversary and to demand an end to the genocide in Palestine. Trade Unionists marched with workers, anti-war campaigners and social justice activists across the island of Ireland, in one of the largest days yet of solidarity with Palestinian workers.

Members of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) took part in actions in Derry, Belfast, Dublin and Cork. Asked why unions such as the IWW have been active in similar solidarity actions with Palestine, a representative of the IWW Ireland in Derry said that: "The Wobblies have been to the fore of the anti-war movement since its inception.

"Throughout the last century our members have been subjected to many forms of oppression for being vocal in our opposition to war, to militarism, to imperialism and to fascism.

"We have done so without fear of the impact it has had upon the union itself. As the State has tried to crush or silence that voice, it is vital that we adhere to that principle, right across our movement and refuse to be silenced and continue to voice our anger and opposition to the genocide inflicted upon the people of Palestine.

"In marching today, here in Derry, in Dublin, or in London, we do so knowing that throughout the world, our members, along with the labour movement itself, have stood up to mark the Nakba 76th anniversary with the oppressed people of Palestine.

"In one of the largest expressions of anger and solidarity, millions of people across the world demand an immediate end to the genocide in Palestine.

**"We demand an immediate end to the occupation of Palestine and for the Palestinian workers themselves to decide upon their own destiny. Free from the Zionist terror regime and their friends in the West, who continue to profit from decades of war and atrocities that Palestine has been subjected to!"**

IWW Ireland

## SYNDICALISM IS NOT A CRIME!

# IWW SOLIDARITY WITH THE CNT 6

At this year's IWW Annual Conference in Bristol, England members of the IWW WISE-RA gathered to extend their support and solidarity with the 6 CNT Xixón members in the Spanish state facing imprisonment for trade union activism.

At conference, members heard that our comrades in the CNT are currently facing 3.5 years each on false charges relating to their shopfloor activism. The act of supporting their members in struggle as part of the "6 de la Suiza" dispute in Xixón.

The IWW show of solidarity came ahead of solidarity mobilisations on Saturday 15th June, to highlight pending state prosecutions of the CNT 6 trade union activists in Xixón.



# ONEBIGUNION.IE

# Conference 2024 Report: IWW Gather in Bristol

The IWWs Annual Conference 2024 brought together Fellow Workers (FWs) for a packed weekend of education, organisation and discussion in Bristol.

This year's conference had a very international flavour. FWs from all over Britain and Ireland were joined by Wobs from Austria, Cyprus, Poland, Australia and Germany.

The conference listened to presentations from speakers from Turkey, the USA and Kurdistan and from migrant workers in the UK. We heard, for example, about the organising efforts of domestic workers in Turkey, attempts to decolonise the international NGO, Medics Sans Frontieres and migrant worker organising in Glasgow.



One of the highlights, for this Wob at least, was hearing about the ongoing struggles to set up the Pan-African Workers' Association (PAWA) in the UK. It was heartening to hear about them organising to win victories for migrant workers from Africa who are working in the care sector. Conference delegates voted to support these ongoing struggles by PAWA, by modifying the WISE-RA rulebook to allow chartered Associations representation on the Delegate Executive Committee (DEC) and by committing to continuing to support PAWA, as an IWW Association.

Workers' action against climate change was another theme in the conference. With talks on the pioneering work of Wobbly Judi Bari and Earth First! and on Earth Strike UK strategy. And there were sessions on a range of other topics, from Rethinking our affiliation to the ICL-CIT to Area Organising to LGBTQIA+ Safe Spaces.

And, of course, there was plenty of opportunities for socialising!

## Wobblies at Maynooth Purple Training

Our branch was invited by the Maynooth Pride Society to participate in a panel discussion with other union activists as part of the society's Purple Training event on Saturday 20th April.

In addition to our own speaker, there were representatives from the Independent Workers Union, Services Industrial Professional and Technical Union (SIPTU), and Community Action Tenants Union (CATU).

The discussion was focused on union organising with respect to LGBTQ+ issues, and the connection between trans and queer rights.

Speakers highlighted how management will often attempt to dismiss and deflect issues of queerphobia in the workplace, and even try to "manage out" folks on the receiving end of this bigotry, rather than tackle the problem head-on.



The CATU representative also highlighted how LGBTQ+ folks are at higher risk of homelessness. Overall, all speakers agreed that we cannot rely on management to solve our

issues, and workers must act in solidarity with each other, organising to make their workplaces safer and more equitable!

IWW Dublin

## A Personal Comment on the Conference

This year I attended the WISERA annual conference for the first time ever, as part of the Ireland branch delegation. As a first-timer, I wasn't quite sure what to expect. Upon entering the venue, I recognised a few faces from fellow workers that had previously visited us in Ireland, who quickly welcomed us and made us feel at home. I immediately felt amongst friends. For three days I got to speak, eat and drink with fellow workers from all over the place, not only from Scotland or England, but also from locations as far as Germany, Austria, Turkey, Greece, Cyprus... I got to make friends.

This might not seem that relevant when

you think about a union's annual conference, where the main aspect is to work on union structures, strategies and goals, but I feel the social aspect was a key part of the whole event.

When you are part of a radical grassroots union, you don't get to speak to a lot of people about your revolutionary dreams, and this can be quite isolating. You might sometimes feel like some sort of nerd and find it hard to engage in this type of conversations with most people, even family members.

To put it simply, in Bristol we were all nerds! Jokes aside, this was a liberating

feeling. I got to hear from many others the same worries and struggles we are going through as a branch in Ireland, the same excitement upon meeting people from so many different backgrounds that were as happy to talk to me as I was to talk to them.

This experience sharing was inspiring and empowering. It all made me realise something quite simple, that at the core of our struggle against capitalism, patriarchy and all the injustices in this world, we are fighting for a world where you can make friends with anybody, anywhere. And we are not alone in this fight.

IWW Derry FW

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