

DIRECT**ACTION**

Industrial Workers of the World

An Injury To One - Is An Injury To All!

Direct Action sees Victory Against British Council, Employment Agency**VICTORY FOR TEFL WORKER!**

Direct Action: IWW solidarity pickets took place in Sheffield, London and Belfast in support of our fellow worker Lara

A series of pickets across the UK and Ireland, organised by the TEFL Workers' Union, led to compensation for an English teacher who was dismissed abruptly from her role as an online teacher for the British Council last March.

Lara, the teacher, was employed by the Impellam Group employment agency. Despite positive feedback during her time there, she was not told the reason for her dismissal.

According to Gabriella Ciocce, the lead rep on the case:

“It takes courage to raise issues when you feel you’ve been mistreated at work, especially as an agency worker. Lara is to be commended for staying strong for the months it took to bring these matters to a successful conclusion. We’re proud of Lara for standing up for a better TEFL industry.”

Dr Ciocce continued,

“Precarious work is an issue across language teaching and especially within online teaching. When combined with employment through an agency, teachers are often left at the whims of capricious and exploitative employers. This is why it’s so important to be a member of a union.”

The union reached out to Impellam and the British Council seeking reinstatement and back pay. When this failed, pickets took place at Impellam’s London headquarters and at offices in Sheffield and Belfast.

The union also organised a phone-in campaign to Impellam’s call centre and actions targeting the social media accounts of the British Council and Impellam. According to Tom Liebewitz, chairperson of the TEFL Workers’ Union steering committee:

“We gave Impellam the opportunity to resolve this without the need for a public campaign. When good faith attempts at negotiation failed, we were left with no other option than to get out in the streets.”

Mr. Liebewitz added,

“Our understanding is that the British Council is moving a significant portion of their UK-based English teaching work to Comensura, a subsidiary of the Impellam group. The British Council must understand they can’t hide behind employment agencies. We’re here to hold them to account.”

TEFL Workers’ Union
tefl@iww.org.uk

International Solidarity: IWW Continued Support With CNT 6



IWW Organising Summit:
Members gather to show support and Solidarity with CNT Xixón 6

During October's IWW Organising Summit, which took place in Thorne & Moorends, Yorkshire, members engaged in international actions to help highlight our solidarity with workers in struggle.

During the banner-making event, one member spoke of the need for us to help raise awareness of ongoing struggles, stating:

"It's a great opportunity for us to talk about what has been happening in the Spanish state at the moment and the struggle our fellow workers are facing, each and every day, for their involvement in workplace struggle.

"Our friends in the **Confederación Nacional del Trabajo (CNT-CIT)** based in Xixón are now facing a number of years in prison for their part in workplace organising or trade union activity.

"As part of this campaign, members of the IWW have answered the international call from our brothers and sisters in CNT Xixón

to assist and highlight their ongoing fight.

"As part of our Organising Summit, we discussed how we can help and in turn raise the issues involved here with our members who haven't heard much about these ongoing developments in Xixón and their campaign.

"As revolutionary syndicalists who form part of the ICL-CIT, it is equally important for us to express our international solidarity at this time of struggle and to learn more about what is actually happening."

Over the coming months, the IWW will be continuing our solidarity actions in support of our comrades in the CNT Xixón, because **#HacerSindicalismoNoEsDelito** (To be a Syndicalist is not a crime).

For more background information on the case and how you can get involved email:

ireland@iww.org.uk

Workplace Control & Resistance Training

Workplace Control & Resistance Training takes place on Wednesday evenings online for the next 6 weeks and is open to all members to participate.

If you would like to join in this or any other upcoming workshop then please do get in touch.

The trainer has also provided a recording of the first session, in case anyone missed it. You can request access to the recording by emailing:

ireland@iww.org.uk

Christmas Campaign Fight Wage Theft

Fellow Workers in the North West will be holding a series of solidarity actions in the running up to the Christmas holiday season. The action will form part of an ongoing solidarity with hospitality workers challenging issues around 'Wage Theft' throughout the industry.

If you would like to take part in the campaign itself or do the same in your area then please get in touch.

You can request further information by emailing:

derry@iww.org.uk

DIRECT ACTION SUBMISSIONS

If you have an issue, a story, a short news article or would like to advertise an event from your area then please remember to submit it to **Direct Action**.

If you take part in any workers solidarity actions at work, on picket lines or on the streets then consider writing or take some photographs to share for further support and solidarity.

Remember, Direct Action is printed and produced each month by volunteer labour of members. If you would like to help out then please get in touch, details below.

You can send your submissions directly to **Direct Action** at:

ireland@iww.org.uk

You can write to **Direct Action** at our postal address listed across the bottom of this page.

WOBBLIES GET ACTIVE! CONTACTS IN YOUR AREA

IWW Members in each area meet each month to discuss, support and organise activity locally. If you would like to become active in your area then we urge you to please get in touch with your local organiser.

Contact your closest local organiser at the following email nearest you or online via Facebook or Twitter:

Dublin: dublin@iww.org.uk

Derry: derry@iww.org.uk

Belfast: belfast@iww.org.uk

Cork: cork@iww.org.uk

Galway: galway@iww.org.uk



Email: ireland@iww.org.uk

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