

Solidarity with the uprising in Kazakhstan (Statement issued 12 January 2022)

Around 200 activists from over 40 countries have signed a worldwide statement of solidarity with the uprising in Kazakhstan – published below.

The statement was coordinated by [Paul Murphy](#), an eco-socialist member (TD) of the parliament in the Republic of Ireland state and includes members of parliament in Ireland, Denmark and Switzerland, city councillors in Greece and Sweden, a member of the European Parliament from the Spanish State, and dozens of trade union, socialist, and human rights activists from around the globe. [ecosocialist.scot](#) is delighted to sign the statement and among the other signatories from Scotland are Frances Curran, former Scottish Socialist Party Member of the Scottish Parliament and activist in Socialists for Independence, members of the Republican Socialist Platform and ScotE3 organisations, and other trade union, community, independence and socialist activists.

The statement rejects the idea that the uprising in Kazakhstan is a result of foreign intervention but is about the rights and demands of working people sick of a tyrannical dictatorship. It calls for the overthrow of this dictatorship and the rights of working people to control democratically the vast natural resources and wealth of Kazakhstan. The statement also rejects the intervention of foreign troops from the Russian state and condemns the hypocrisy of the EU and USA.

Further reports and initiatives will follow and be publicised on [ecosocialist.scot](#).

Solidarity with the uprising in Kazakhstan

We, socialists, trade unionists, human rights activists, anti-war activists and organisations have watched the uprising in Kazakhstan since 2 January with a sense of deep solidarity for the working people. The striking oil workers, miners and protesters have faced incredible repression. The full force of the police and army have been unleashed against them, instructed to 'shoot to kill without warning'. Over 160 protesters have been killed so far and more than 8,000 have been arrested.

We reject the propaganda of the dictatorship that this uprising is a product of "Islamic radicals" or the intervention of US imperialism. There is no evidence of that whatsoever. It is the usual resort of an unpopular regime – to blame 'outside' agitators.

Instead, the trigger of the protests was the rise in fuel prices. This was the straw that broke the camel's back, in a country where immense oil wealth exists side by side with terrible poverty and exploitation. It is also the result of the crushing weight of a brutal dictatorship on people's backs. This regime has liquidated all opposition parties, imprisoned and tortured trade union and human rights activists, and was responsible for a massacre of striking oil workers in Zhanaozen ten years ago.

The position of all the major capitalist powers is clear. Putin stands full square behind the regime. The Russian-led Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO) has sent 3,000 troops to Kazakhstan to intimidate protesters. Chinese President Xi Jinping also announced his support for the Kazakhstan government and claimed the unrest was the deliberate result of "outside forces."

The US administration has called for "restraint by both the authorities and protesters". The EU has similarly called on protesters to "avoid any incitement to violence" and called on authorities "to respect the fundamental right to peaceful protest and proportionality in the use of force when defending its legitimate security interests"!

Unsurprisingly, they all prioritise 'stability' for their oil companies who are benefiting from the exploitation of the natural resources and Kazakh workers.

In response to the class solidarity of the capitalist regimes, we respond with working class solidarity and commit to raise the following demands in our trade unions, parliaments and organisations:

- *Solidarity with those rising up against the dictatorship in Kazakhstan*
- *End the repression of the protests*
- *Release all the detained protesters and political prisoners*
- *No to Russian and CSTO intervention – withdraw the troops now*

- *No to the hypocrisy of the EU and US who equate the revolt of the masses with the brutal violence of the regime*
- *Down with the dictatorship*
- *Support the call from oil workers for nationalisation of the oil wealth and major industries under workers' control*
- *Support the building of an independent trade union movement and socialist movement in Kazakhstan*

Albania

Redi Muci

Aotearoa / New Zealand

International Socialist Organisation

Joe Carolan, Unite Union, Senior Organiser

Argentina

Christian Castillo, por la Dirección Nacional del Partido de los Trabajadores Socialistas (PTS)

Nicolás del Caño, Diputado Nacional por la Provincia de Buenos Aires por el Frente de Izquierda y de los Trabajadores – Unidad, dirigente del Partido de los Trabajadores Socialistas (PTS)

Myriam Bregman, Diputada Nacional por la Ciudad de Buenos Aires por el Frente de Izquierda y de los Trabajadores – Unidad, PTS, Abogada del CEPRODH – Centro de Profesionales por los Derechos Humanos

Alejandro Vilca, Diputado Nacional por la Provincia de Jujuy por el Frente de Izquierda y de los Trabajadores – Unidad, dirigente del Partido de los Trabajadores Socialistas (PTS)

Raúl Godoy, ex Diputado provincial de Neuquén por el Frente de Izquierda. Dirigente del PTS, ex Secretario General de SOECN (Sindicato de Obreros Ceramistas), obrero de la fábrica ex-Zanon recuperada por sus trabajadores

Eduardo Ayala, trabajador de Madygraf (ex Gráfica Donneley recuperada por sus trabajadores), PTS

Claudio Dellecarbonara, dirigente por la minoría de Asociación Gremial de Trabajadores del Subte y Premetro (AGTSYP) y referente de línea B de Subterráneos Buenos Aires. Diputado Provincial (Buenos Aires) electo por el Frente de Izquierda y de los Trabajadores Unidad, PTS

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Luke Alexander, NTEU

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Susan Price

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Jean Vogel, Marcel Liebman Institute, President

Eric Toussaint, Fourth International, international activist & historian

Freddy Mathieu, FGTB, Ancien Secrétaire Régional

SAP – Antikapitalisten / Gauche anticapitaliste

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Fiona Lali, Marxist Student Federation (MSF)

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Neil Faulkner, , Archaeologist, historian and writer

Kazakh Solidarity Campaign

John McInally, Public & Commercial Services Union, Former Vice-President

Socialist Appeal

Workers Power

Ukraine Solidarity Campaign

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Gareth Jenkins, SWP

Jon Woods, Portsmouth City UNISON, Chair

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New Internationalist Left, NEDA

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Xekinima – Internationalist Socialist Organization

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People Before Profit

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JRCL (Japan Revolutionary Communist League)

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