# Solidarity with the uprising in Kazakhstan! Online meeting 22 January and updated Statement

Around 200 activists from over 40 countries have signed 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, Glasgow SNP councillor Graham Campbell, 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.

There will be an online public meeting organised by the statement coordinators and supported by ecosocialist.scot on Saturday 22 January 6pm GMT/UTC.  The meeting has also been sponsored by the Republican Socialist Platform in Scotland and Anti Capitalist Resistance (England/Wales).  Sign up at: tinyurl.com/uprising2022




**Zoom meeting, Saturday, January 22nd,** 10am PT / **6pm UTC/GMT** / 19h CET

**Ainur Kurmanov, Socialist Movement Kazakhstan** – with a report, Q&A and discussion.

This meeting is organized by **AntiCapitalist Resistance** (England and Wales), **Lernen im Kampf** (Germany), **RISE** (Ireland), **Reform & Revolution caucus** in DSA (USA).  Supported by ecosocialist.scot and Republican Socialist Platform (Scotland).

# *Solidarity with the uprising in Kazakhstan*

*(Statement issued 12 January 2022)*
*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 protestors". 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*

# Add your name to the solidarity statement

*By filling in the form below and clicking the 'Sign the statement' button you are agreeing to have your name added to the public list of signatories of this statement and to be contacted with updates about future Kazakstan solidarity statements and actions should they be needed.*

*
*Name*
*First Name*
*Last Name*
*Email* *
*Country* *
*Organisation and/or your role* *
*Are you signing in a personal capacity?*
☐ *I am signing in a personal capacity only, any organisation mentioned is for identification purposes only*
Sign the statement

# 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*

# *Australia*

*Caitlin Doyle-Markwick, Solidarity (IST), Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance*

*Miroslav Sandev, Solidarity / Teacher's Federation*

*Luke Alexander, NTEU*

*Dani Cotton, National Tertiary Education Union, Branch*

*Committee, University of Sydney*

*Susan Price*

*Mick Armstrong, Socialist Alternative, National Executive*

## *Austria*

*Christian Zeller, Netzwerk Ökosozialismus, Global Ecosocialist Network, Professor of Economic Geography, University of Salzburg*

*Manfred Ecker, Gewerkschaft der Privatangestellten GPA, Member*

*David Heuser, Linkswende*

*Heidi Specht, Arbeiter*innenstandpunkt*

*Karin Wilfingseder, GPA (Trade Union), Shop Steward*

## *Belgium*

*Daniel Tanuro, Gauche anticapitaliste, Ecosocialist author*

*Jean Vogel, Marcel Liebman Insitute, President*

*Eric Toussaint, Fourth International, international activist & historian*

*Freddy Mathieu, FGTB, Ancien Secrétaire Régional*

*SAP – Antikapitalisten / Gauche anticapitaliste*

*Nick Van de Vel*

## *Britain / England and Wales*

*Simon Hannah, Lambeth UNISON, Joint Branch Secretary*

*Fiona Lali, Marxist Student Federation (MSF)*

*Anne Alexander, Middle East Solidarity magazine, Co-editor*

*Labour Representation Committee (LRC)*

*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*

*Alex Callinicos, Emeritus Professor of European Studies, King's College London*

*Andy Richards, UNISON, Brighton and Hove Branch Chair*

*Gareth Jenkins, SWP*

*Jon Woods, Portsmouth City UNISON, Chair*

*Gilbert Achcar, UCU, Professor*

*Michael Tucker*

*Ian Parker, Unite*

*Andrew Kilmister, Oxford Brookes University UCU (Universities and Colleges Union), Branch Secretary*

*Rowan Fortune, Anti*Capitalist Resistance, EC Member*

*Penny Foskett, SWP.  NEU*

*Tony Foley, NEU, England*

*ACR, Anti*Capitalist Resistance, England and Wales*

*Alan Thornett, UNITE*

*Nigel Smyth*

*Elizabeth Lawrence, University and College Union (personal capacity)*

## *Canada*

*Liam Chiasson*

## *Costa Rica*

*Paola Zeledón, editora de La Izquierda Diario Costa Rica.*

*Fernanda Quirós, dirigente de Pan y Rosas Costa Rica*

*Esteban Fernández, dirigente de OSR, profesor de filosofía UCR.*

## *China*

*Liu Haoyu*

*Fan Zeng*

□ □□

*Peter Yang*

## *Cuba*

*Frank García Hernández, Comunistas Cuba blog, member of the Editorial Board*

## *Cyprus*

*Athina Kariati, NEDA – New Internationalist Left*

*New Internationalist Left, NEDA*

## *Denmark*

*Søren Sondergaard, Red-Green Alliance, Member of Danish Parliament, spokesperson on European Affairs*

*Lene Junker, Internationale Socialister*

## *Dominican Republic*

*Movimiento Socialista de Trabajadoras y Trabajadores, MST*

## *France*

*Christian Mahieux, International Labour Network of Solidarity and Struggles*

*Malewski Jan, Inprecor (révue), rédacteur*

*Penelope Duggan, International Viewpoint, Editor*

*Michael Löwy*

*Nouveau Parti Anticapitaliste / New Anticapitalist Party*

*Anasse Kazib, rail worker, Sud Rail, candidate to the French presidency for Révolution Permanente*

*Adrien Cornet, refinery worker (Grandspuit), CGT Total, Révolution Permanente*

*Philippe Alcoy, RévolutionPermanente.fr, editorial board*

## *Germany*

*Yaak Pabst, Redaktion marx21-Magazin*

*Michael Findeisen, Fellow*

*Joachim Ladwig, Verdi*

*Daniel Behruzi, ver.di TU Darmstadt (Trade Union), Shop Stewards Speaker*

*Alexander Keim, LiK/ die Linke/Verdi*

*Internationale Sozialistische Organisation (ISO)*

*Dr. Winfried Wolf, Lunapark21 – Zeitschrift zur Kritik der globalen Ökonomie, responsable in the editorial board of LP21-Magazine*

*Aron Amm, Lernen im Kampf*

*Martin Suchanek, Gruppe ArbeiterInnenmacht, Germany section of League for the Fifth International, Editor of journal "Revolutionärer Marxismus"*

*Wilhelm Schulz, Gruppe ArbeiterInnenmacht, German Section of the League for the Fifth International*

*Jaqueline K. Singh, REVOLUTION – international communist youth organisation Germany*

*Matthias Fritz, former TU converer (VK-Leiter) IG Metall Mahle*

*Oskar Fischer, Soziologe, Revolutionäre Internationalistische Organisation*

*Stefan Schneider, Politologe, Revolutionäre Internationalistische Organisation*

*Charlotte Ruga, Hebamme, Revolutionäre Internationalistische*

*Organisation*

*Tabea Winter, Studentin, Revolutionäre Internationalistische Organisation*

*Thies Gleiss, Die Linke, Member of National Party Executive*

*Christph Waelz, German Education Union, GEW Barlin-Pankow (personal capacity)*

## *Greece*

*Panos Garganas, Sosialistiko Ergatiko Komma (SEK), Editor Workers Solidarity weekly*

*Editorial Team of Elaliberta.gr, www.elaliberta.gr, Athens*

*Serafeim Rizos, Chania city/Union of Teachers-Chania, councilor Chania/member of board of Teachers Union Chania*

*Thanasis Diavolakis, Peiraus city/Teachers Federation of private schools, councilor Peiraus city/member of board of OIELE*

*Katerina Thoidou, Nikaia-Renti city, councillor*

*Maria Styllou, Sosialismos apo ta kato Review, Editor*

*Thanasis Kampagiannis, Athens Bar Association Board, Elected councillor (personal capacity)*

*ANTARSYA, Front of the anticapitalist Left*

*Xekinima – Internationalist Socialist Organization*

*NAR, New Left Current*

*Manthos Tavoularis, Docker, trade unionist*

*Tassos Anastassiadis, member of General Council of POESY (Federation of Greek journalists)*

*TPT (Fourth International Programmatic Tendency, Greek Section of 4th International)*

*Petros Constantinou, Athens city/KEERFA-Movement United Against Racism and Fascist Threat, councillor Athens city/coordinator of KEERFA*

*Aphrodite Fragkou, Marousi city, councillor*

*Dimitris Zotos, Lawyers Association of Athens, Civil action Golden Dawn trial*

## *India*

*Rohini Hensman, Internationalism from Below, Writer, researcher and activist*

*Sushovan Dhar, Vice-President, Progressive Plantation Workers Union (PPWU)*

## *International*

*International Marxist Tendency*

*Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (www.thecommunists.net)*

*Pierre Rousset, international activist*

## *Iran*

*Morad Shirin, Shahrokh Zamani Action Campaign, International Organiser*

*Maziar Razi, Iranian Revolutionary Marxists' Tendency, Spokesperson*

# *Ireland*

*Bríd Smith, People Before Profit, TD (Member of Parliament)*

*Paul Murphy, People Before Profit, TD (Member of Parliament)*

*Gino Kenny, People Before Profit, TD (Member of Parliament)*

*Richard Boyd Barrett, People Before Profit, TD (Member of Parliament)*

*Gerry Carroll, People Before Profit, MLA (Member of the Legislative Assembly)*

*Mick Barry, Solidarity and Socialist Party, TD (Member of Parliament)*

*People Before Profit*

*Socialist Democracy*

*Goretti Horgan, People Before Profit*

*Jess Spear, RISE, National Organiser*

*John Molyneux, People Before Profit, Unite The Union., Editor, Irish Marxist Review*

*Ailbhe Smyth, Le Cheile: Diversity Not Division, Member*

*Eddie Conlon, Teachers Union of Ireland, Member/Former National Hon Secretary*

*Emilio Maira, People Before Profit*

*Memet Uludağ, Unite the Union, Union Rep*

*Shaun Harkin, People Before Profit, People Before Profit Cllr Derry City and Strabane District Council*

*Mark Price*

*Mark Finnegan, People Before Profit*

## *Italy*

*Giacomo Turci, La Voce delle Lotte, editor*

*Scilla Di Pietro, Il Pane e le Rose feminist current, spokesperson*

*Mary Rizzo, Le Voci della Libertà, Activist / Translator*

## *Japan*

*Tsutomu Teramoto, Japan Revolutionary Communist League (JRCL)*

*JRCL (Japan Revolutionary Communist League)*

## *México*

*Jose Manuel Aguilar Mora, Universidad Autónoma de la Ciudad de México & Member of La Liga De Unidad Socialista (LUS), Professor-Researcher, Partido Revolucionario de los Trabajadores*

*Edgard Sánchez, Partido Revolucionario de los Trabajadores*

*Flora Aco González, trabajadora estatal reinstalada, ex aspirante a candidata a diputada por el Frente de Izquierda Anticapitalista en la Ciudad de México, MTS*

*Sulem Estrada, maestra de secundaria, ex candidata anticapitalista al Congreso de la Ciudad de México, Agrupación Nuestra Clase , MTS*

*Miriam Hernandez, trabajadora de la UNAM, ex candidata anticapitalista al Congreso de la CdMX, MTS*

*Mario Caballero, Movimiento de las y los Trabajadores Socialistas*

*Nancy Cazares y Alex Osorio, ex presos políticos de 10 de junio de 2013, MTS*

## Nigeria

*Salako Kayode, Revolutionary socialist movement, Spokesperson*

*Dimeji Macaulay, Revolutionary Socialist Movement, National Organiser*

*Revolutionary Socialist Movement*

## Poland

*Andrzej Żebrowski, Pracownicza Demokracja (Workers Democracy)*

*Agnieszka Kaleta*

*Michał Wysocki, Pracownicza Demokracja (Workers' Democracy), worker*

*Filip Ilkowski Associate Professor, Polish Teachers Union at the University of Warsaw, Member of the Presidium of the Council for Higher Education and Science of the Polish Teachers Union*

*Bronislaw Czarnocha, Hostos CC/CUNY (personal capacity)*

## Portugal

*Semear o futura*

## Russia

*Daria, IST Russia,*

*Semyon, Trotskyist*

*Socialist Tendency (IST)*

*Denis Zagladkin, Socialist Tendency*

## *Scotland*

*Paul Inglis, Radical Independence Campaign, Glasgow City Branch Unison, Clydeside IWW, Partick Living Rent, Member*

*Connor Beaton, Republican Socialist Platform, Secretary*

*Allan Armstrong, Republican Socialist Platform, Educational Institute of Scotland (life member)*

*Frances Curran, Former member of parliament and member of Socialist for Independence*

*Pete Cannell, Scot.E3 (Employment, Energy and Environment), Secretary*

*Bob Goupillot, Radical Independence Campaign Edinburgh, (Personal Capacity)*

*Ecosocialist.scot (organisation), ecosocialist.scot*

*Graham Campbell, SNP Councillor in Glasgow Glasow (personal capacity)*

*Campbell McGregor, Scottish Socialist Party / UNISON*

*Donny Gluckstein, SWP, Educational Institute of Scotland, EIS Council*

## *South Africa*

*Mametlwe Sebei, President, General Industries Workers Union of South Africa*

## *South Korea*

*Workers' Solidarity*

# *Spanish State*

*Anticapitalistas*

*David Karvala, Social movement activist and member of Marx21.net, Catalunya*

*Carlos de Pablo Torrecilla, UGT de Catalunya , Secretari de Política Institucional, Catalunya*

*Gerardo Pisarello, Unidas Podemos-En Comú Podem, member of the Spanish Congress, and First Secretary of the Bureau of the Congress*

*Miguel Urbán Crespo, Anticapitalistas, Member of the European Parliament*

*Marx21.net*

*Santiago Lupe, portavoz de la Corriente Revolucionaria de Trabajadores y Trabajadoras – CRT, historiador*

*Lucía Nistal, doctora en Teoría Literaria Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM), impulsora de Referéndum UAM y portavoz de CRT*

*Juan Carrique, abogado laboralista, miembro de la Asociación Libre de Abogadas y Abogados, afiliado a CGT*

*Josefina L. Martínez, periodista, historiadora, escritora, editora revista Contrapunto*

*Asier Ubico, presidente del Comité de Empresa de Telepizza por CGT – Zaragoza*

*Juan Carlos Arias Sanz, delegado por UGT de la Consejería de Políticas Sociales y Familia de la Comunidad de Madrid*

*Cynthia Lub, doctora en Historia, escritora, editora de Esquerra Diari.cat y afiliada a CGT Lleure*

*Maria Dantas, ERC, social movement activist in Catalunya, Member of the Congress of Deputies*

*Omar Noumri Coca, Mayor of Castelló de Farfanya (Catalunya) , member of ERC.*

*Rodrigo Díaz López, Unión de Juventudes Comunistas de España*

*Enrique Fernando Santiago, Secretario General del PCE y Secretario de Estado de España, en representación de todo el PCE*

*Pedro Cortés Costoya, Unión de Juventudes Comunistas de España (UJCE).*

## *Switzerland*

*Manuel Sepulveda, Mouvement pour le Socialisme, Militant actif*

*Stéfanie Prezioso, Ensemble à Gauche, Member of Parliament*

*Jean BATOU, Ensemble à Gauche, Member of parliament (Geneva)*

*Philipp Schmid, Movement for Socialism, teacher and union activist*

*Christian Zeller, Network Ecosocialism and Global Ecosocialist Network, Professor of Economic Geography*

*Corriente Revolucionaria de Trabajadoras y Trabajadores (CRT, miembro de la FT-CI) (Estado Español)*

*Hannah, Bewegung für den Sozialismus*

## *Sweden*

*Jonas Brännberg, Rättvisepartiet Socialisterna – International Socialist Alternative, Member of Luleå City council*

*Arbetarmakt Workers Power*

## *Syria*

*Jackal, Revolutionary Left Movement*

## *Taiwan*

*□□□, International Socialist Forward*

*Fang, International Socialist Forward*

*Nicholas Soo, International Socialist Forward*

## *Turkey*

*Sosyalist Demokrasi için Yeniyol, Turkish section of IV. International*

*Ecehan Balta, Sosyalist Alternatif*

*Nihat Boyraz, Sosyalist Alternatif*

*Sosyalist Alternatif*

## *Ukraine*

*Pavlo Viknyanskyy, («Республіка») political party (personal capacity)*

## *USA*

*Andrew Berman, Veterans for Peace, Peace and Solidarity Activist*

*Brandon Madsen, Democratic Socialists of America / AFGE 2157*

*Reform & Revolution, Caucus of Democratic Socialists of*

*America*

*Dan La Botz, New Politics, Co-Editor*

*Tyron Moore, Washington Federation of State Employees, Organizer*

*Phil Gasper, New Politics, Co-editor*

*Richard Burton, Montgomery County Education Association (ID purposes only), UniServ Director/Organizer*

*Tempest Collective*

*E. Reed, Boston Revolutionary Socialists, Coordinating Committee Member*

*David McNally, Editor in Chief, Spectre Journal, Professor of History, University of Houston*

*Steve Leigh, Seattle Revolutionary Socialists (*for identification purposes only)*

*Joel Geier*

*Sherry Wolf, Tempest Collective, author, Sexuality and Socialism*

*Socialist Resurgence*

*Charles Post, Tempest Collective, the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), member of editorial board of Spectre: A Marxist Journal*

*Zachary Levenson, Editor, Spectre, Assistant Professor of Sociology, UNC Greensboro*

*Ashley Smith, Tempest Collective, Democratic Socialists of America*, National Writers Union* (*for identification purposes only)*

*Marx21, marx21us.org*

*Stephen Oren*

*Peter Ranis, Professor Emeritus, Political Science, Graduate Center, CUNY (personal capacity)*

*Elliot Podwill, PSC-CUNY (personal capacity)*

*Carol Lang, PSC/AFT (personal capacity)*

*Howard Pflazer, PSC-CUNY (personal capacity)*

*Ruy Martinez, DSA (personal capacity)*

*Michael Beyer, DSA (personal capacity)*

*Thomas Harrison, New Politics editorial board member (personal capacity)*

*Paul Goodspeed, South New Hampshire DSA*

*Matthew Chociej*

*Frieda Afary, Producer of Iranian Progressives in Translation*

*Derek Bartholomew, Tempest Collective (personal capacity)*

*Criage Lynnette Althage, DSA member*

*Stephen Shalom, New Politics (personal capacity)*

*Somak Paul, DSA organiser (personal capacity)*

*Coco Smyth, Revolutionary Socialist Network (personal capacity)*

## *Venezuela*

*Angel Árias, dirigente de la LTS, trabajador estatal*

*Suhey Ochoa, Pan y Rosas, trabajadora de Apps*

***Zimbabwe***

*Tafadzwa A Choto, ISO – Zimbabwe, Member*

---

# Protests rise against repression in Kazakhstan

*An uprising has begun in Kazakhstan but has been met by brutal repression and a Russian intervention. ecosocialist.scot condemns the repression and supports the uprising. We reproduce statements from Russia, Kazakhstan and a report on London protests. Further coverage to come.*

## For a democratic and socialist Kazakhstan! Stop the intervention, release the detainees! Statement of the Russian Socialist Movement

> *Mass protests have been going on in Kazakhstan for several days. The detonator of the uprising was the rise in prices for liquefied gas, but it is obvious that the contradictions, which eventually led to a social explosion, accumulated in Kazakhstan for years.*
>
> *At the moment, the protesters are forming their own self-governing bodies, in some cities administrative buildings and offices of law enforcement agencies have been taken by storm.*

*Despite the fact that the country's nominal president, Kosym-Zharmat Tokayev, tried to calm the people down by freezing gas prices and the resignation of the government, the protests only intensified and entered a new phase, which speaks of deep-rooted discontent with authoritarian-bureaucratic capitalism in Kazakhstan.*

*The vanguard of the protest is the working class, and we are convinced that only it will be able to carry through to the end the democratic transformations, without which the struggle for freedom, democracy and socialism is impossible. Only the working people and all the progressive forces of Kazakhstan will be able to bring the revolution to its goal, without looking back at the lulling speeches of the government and not handing over the fate of the protest into the hands of "democratic" opposition politicians.*

*We stand in solidarity with the insurgent people of Kazakhstan, demanding:*
*• Immediately release all detained protesters and political prisoners.*
*• Stop the military intervention of the CSTO member states.*

*We call on the Kazakh left to participate in the protests and defense of Kazakhstan against military incursion. Introduce a socialist agenda into the program of the insurgent people of Kazakhstan and build their own independent political organization.*

*The statement was signed by:*

- *Russian Socialist Movement,*
- *Executive Committee of the movement "Labor Russia",*
- *Altleft.org website editorial office,*
- *Interregional Coalition of Left Forces "Left Bloc",*
- *Marxist Tendency.*

*6 January 2022*

*Reproduced from Fourth International/International Viewpoint: https://internationalviewpoint.org/spip.php?article7469=*

# Statement of the Socialist Movement of Kazakhstan

*In Kazakhstan, there is now a real popular uprising. From the very beginning the protests were of a social and class nature, as the doubling of the price of liquefied gas on the stock exchange was only the last straw in the overflowing cup of patience. After all, the protests began in Zhanaozen on the initiative of oil workers, which became a kind of political headquarters for the entire protest movement.*

*The dynamics of this movement are indicative as it started as a social protest, but then it began to expand, and the labour collectives used the meetings to put forward their demands for a wage increase of 100%, the cancellation of the results of optimisation, the improvement of labour conditions and freedom of trade union activity. As a result, as early as 3 January the entire Mangistau region was gripped by a general strike, which spilled over into the neighbouring Atyrau region.*

*As early as 4 January, oil workers at Tengizchevroil, where American companies have a 75% stake, went on strike. It was there that in December last year 40,000 workers were laid off and a new round of layoffs was planned. They were supported later in the day by oil workers of Aktobe and West Kazakhstan and Kyzylorda regions.*

*Moreover, in the evening of the same day, strikes of miners*

*of ArmelorMittal Temirtau in Karaganda region and of copper smelters and miners of Kazakhmys corporation began what is essentially a general strike in the whole extractive industry of the country. There were also demands for higher wages, lowering of the retirement age, the right to trade unions and strikes.*

*Meanwhile, on Tuesday, open-ended strikes already started in Atyrau, Uralsk, Aktyubinsk, Kyzyl-Orda, Taraz, Taldykorgan, Turkestan, Shymkent, Ekibastuz, in towns of Almaty region and in Almaty itself, where barricading of streets during the night of 4-5 January led to the open clash of demonstrators with the police, as a result of which the city administration was temporarily seized. This gave Kassym-Jomart Tokayev grounds for declaring a state of emergency.*

*It should be noted that these demonstrations in Almaty were mainly composed of unemployed youth and internal migrants, living in the suburbs of the megalopolis and working in temporary or low-paid jobs. And attempts to placate them with promises to reduce gas price to 50 tenge, separately for the Mangistau region and Almaty have not satisfied anyone.*

*Kassym-Jomart Tokayev's decision to dismiss the government, and then to dismiss Nursultan Nazarbayev, the chairman of the Security Council, did not stop the protests either, as mass protest rallies began on 5 January in those regional centres of Northern and Eastern Kazakhstan, where there were none before – in Petropavlovsk, Pavlodar, Ust-Kamenogorsk, Semipalatinsk. At the same time, in Aktobe, Taldykorgan, Shymkent and Almaty, attempts were made to take the buildings of regional administrations by storm.*

*In Zhanaozen itself, the workers formulated new demands in their indefinite rally – the resignation of the current president and all Nazarbayev officials, the restoration of the 1993 Constitution and the related freedoms to create parties and trade unions, the release of political prisoners*

*and the end of repression. The Council of Aksakals [Elders] was established as an informal governing body.*

*In this way, demands and slogans were transmitted to the entire movement, which are now used in various cities and regions, and the struggle was given a political content. There are also attempts on the ground to create committees and councils to coordinate the struggle.*

*At the same time, troops were brought to Almaty, Aktau and Zhanaozen. While in the Mangistau region, all passed peacefully, and the soldiers refused to disperse demonstrators, in the southern capital skirmishes began, and during the night of January 5 to 6 special forces were brought in to cleanse by force the airport and the neighbourhoods occupied by the insurgents. According to various reports, dozens of demonstrators have been killed.*

*In this situation there is a danger that all protests and strikes will be violently suppressed and the country must be completely paralysed by a general strike. It is therefore urgent to form united action committees along territorial and industrial lines to offer organized resistance to the military-police terror.*

*In this connection we also need the support of the entire international workers' and communist movement and left-wing associations, with the aim of organising a major campaign in the world.*

*The socialist movement in Kazakhstan demands:*

*An immediate cessation of hostilities against its people and the withdrawal of troops from the cities!*

*The immediate resignation of all Nazarbayev officials, including President Tokayev!*

*Release of all political prisoners and detainees!*

*Ensuring the right to form their own trade unions, political parties, and to hold strikes and meetings!*

*Legalisation of the activities of the banned Communist Party of Kazakhstan and the Socialist Movement of Kazakhstan!*

*We call on all workers and employees of the country to implement in practice the demand of the murdered oil workers of Zhanaozen – to nationalize, under the control of labour collectives, all extractive and large-scale industry in the country!*

*Reproduced from Fourth International/International Viewpoint – https://internationalviewpoint.org/spip.php?article7468=*

# Report of London Picket of Kazakhstan Embassy

*Around 50 people braved teeming rain and the challenges of travelling during the pandemic to protest against the barbarous actions of the Kazakh regime against its own people, writes Terry Conway.*

*Called by AntiCapitalistResistance (ACR) and supported by the Ukraine Solidarity Campaign, Labour Representation Committee (LRC), rs21, Workers Power, Socialist Alternative, Workers Liberty and a number of individual activists, people had been galvanised by the speed and depth of working class resistance to the major attacks on their living standards that the removal of the price cap on liquefied gas – and then outraged by the repression that followed.*

*Russia sent 2,500 troops into the country, on Thursday in response to an appeal from President Tokayev who was clearly*

*worried he was losing control. The night before the rally, Tokayev ordered troops to shoot to kill protestors, who he has consistently labelled "outside agitators". It is difficult to know how many have been murdered – even the BBC balks at using Tokayev's term of "eliminated" without comment. Certainly thousands have been arrested.*

*Meanwhile China's President Xi also expressed support for the regime. While the European Union is worried about Russian intervention, it makes little criticism of the Tokayev regime, seeming to blame the protestors for the violence…. UN rights chief Michelle Bachelet said: "People have the right to peaceful protest and freedom of expression. At the same time, protesters, no matter how angry or aggrieved they may be, should not resort to violence against others."*

*Biden and his team have made similar comments.*

*Britain  is certainly not absent from this gang of thieves. Johnson has echoed the comments of other world leaders in recent days – not a surprise when he welcomed the Kazakh Foreign Minister Kairat Abdrakhmanov to London in late November, saying he looked forward to working with him on "global security".*

*And of course, as was pointed out at the protest, Tony Blair acted as advisor to former president Nursultan Nazarbayev, in power for more than three decades until 2019 and who still has a significant influence.*


KAZAKHS
WHEN DICTATORSHIP IS
A FACT, PROTEST
IN KAZAKHSTAN
BECOMES A RIGHT !

*The rally was chaired by the ACR's Simon Hannah who read part of the statement of the Kazakh Socialist Movement. Then we heard from Yuliya Yurchenko speaking on behalf of the Ukrainian Social Movement and Chris Ford from the Ukraine Solidarity Campaign who read messages from the Ukrainian Socialist League and from Ukrainian socialist writer and historian Marko Bojcun.*




*Other speakers were from Socialist Alternative, Pete Firmin from LRC, Steve McSweney from Workers Power and journalist Paul Mason. Paul, as a member of the NUJ, sent particular solidarity to journalists in Kazakhstan, trying to disseminate news of the resistance under impossible conditions.*

*A police van arrived quite early on and spoke to the organisers but then moved back. During the speeches one of the protestors noticed the poster on the embassy window – Kazakstan a great place to visit and amended it to Kazakstan a great place to overthrow the president. Shortly afterwards*

*the police moved in and arrested the comrade and took him to Charing Cross police station, saying he would be charged with criminal damage.*




*This was despite the fact that others in the crowd removed the graffiti before he was taken away and took timed photographs to show no damage had in fact been done. A number of speakers made the point that the police were more concerned about protecting the property of a repressive murderous regime than respecting our democratic rights to protest. Such sentiments are undoubtedly bolstered by the Police bill wending its way through Westminster.*

*During the action at the embassy we heard that there was a gathering of the Kazakh community in Trafalgar Square and made our way to join them, The organisers who were clearly inexperienced, seemed nervous about being joined by the left, though they were happy to borrow our megaphone. Later John McDonnell MP who had been speaking at an event in another part of the square to mark the shameful 20th anniversary of*

*Guantanamo Bay came and addressed them so some links were made.*

*As Simon Pirani argues here, the left needs to urgently discuss the most effective forms of solidarity we can develop with the people of Kazakhstan, of the other Eastern European countries and with those in Russia itself. The ACR is committed to being part of this process.*

*Thanks to Steve Eason for the photos.*

*10 Jan 2022*

*Reproduced from Anti Capitalist Resistance https://anticapitalistresistance.org/london-picket-of-kazakhstan-embassy/*