Internationalist solidarity with the Venezuelan people

Venezuela was struck by two earthquakes measuring 7.2 and 7.5 on the Richter scale on 24 June. The damage is immense and the death toll continues to rise (more than 1,500 people have died and 50,000 are missing).

Hundreds of aftershocks have continued to occur in recent days, and the survivors find themselves in an extremely precarious situation: sleeping in tents rather than returning to cracked buildings, whilst basic services in the affected regions (water, electricity, transport, telephone connections, etc.) have ground to a halt and hospitals are overwhelmed.

In the face of this terrible situation, the Fourth International expresses its internationalist solidarity with the Venezuelan people. We stand with all the victims, the injured and the missing, as well as their families, friends and comrades, in their grief and their hopes for a speedy recovery.

We also wish to express our support for all those who are mobilising to help their communities, to search for survivors, to collect and distribute aid (water, food, medicines…) and to assess the damage in the affected areas.

Popular mobilisation is crucial in a country that has endured repeated crises, a blockade and the deterioration of public services in recent years, and it gives full meaning to the saying ‘Only the people can save the people’.

US imperialism is exploiting the situation to strengthen its control over Venezuela, following the abduction of Nicolás Maduro and Cilia Flores on 3 January. The US Army’s Southern Command has taken control of the distribution of international aid, thereby increasing its presence in the country.

We call for support for all initiatives providing direct aid to the Venezuelan people

That is why, in the face of this situation, we call for support for all initiatives providing direct aid to the Venezuelan people. In particular, the Fourth International is mobilising to raise funds for the joint initiative by the political current Comunes and the NGO No One Out.[1]

This initiative is helping to ensure the survival of at least 150 families living as refugees in the open in Caribe, Macuto and Playa Verde. They have lost everything. They have no electricity, food, medical supplies or shelter. The initiative is supporting three refugee centres in the worst-affected areas. They collect, purchase, organise and deliver supplies.

From outside Venezuela, donations can be made to this account:

Bank: BCC di Brescia
Account name: NO ONE OUT – ETS
IBAN: IT82T0869211202017000171010
Reference: Venezuela Emergency.

In Venezuela, donations can be made to this account:

Banco Venezolano de Crédito
Account name: Asociación de Empleados Administrativos UCV
No: 01040008210080301278
Tax ID: J-302406943

The situation calls for the broadest possible international aid to tackle a tragedy of this magnitude. This means that all funds must be channelled towards overcoming the current crisis and, as far as possible, towards future reconstruction.

We therefore endorse the call made by the Comunes current, considering that *“a step in this direction is to suspend the negotiation process regarding Venezuela’s external debt—demanded by international banks and sponsored by the US government—[to demand its cancellation] and to concentrate all efforts on addressing the tragedy and national reconstruction. All the money must be channelled towards overcoming this tragedy, the scale of which is as yet unimaginable.”*

Statement by the Secretariat of the Executive Bureau of the Fourth International
1 July 2026

- [1]No One Out is an Italian NGO, formed from the merger of two organisations specialising in international cooperation and solidarity-based international volunteering. It is driven by deeply Christian values and focused on international solidarity.

British trade unions call for solidarity with Ukraine

Statement issued by UK trade unions, in association with USC, on 23 February 2026, for the fourth anniversary of Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine on 24 February. All the signatories are General Secretaries signing on behalf of their unions, all of which have policy in support of Ukraine made by their members through their democratic structures. In addition to support from the Trades Union Congress (TUC), the ten unions supporting the statement represent a clear majority of organised workers in the UK.

For more information, interviews, etc,

email info@ukrainesolidaritycampaign.org. If your union has not yet signed but wants to do so, please also get in touch.

Joint Statement by UK Trade Unions in Solidarity with Ukraine

On the fourth anniversary of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, UK trade unions reaffirm our solidarity with Ukraine, its workers and their unions. Ukraine's workers are not only defending their country but are standing up for democratic rights, freedoms and labour standards that underpin our movement. We send our greetings to our sister organisations, the FPU and KVPU, and commit our continuing support for them.

As Putin's war of aggression enters its fifth year, Ukraine's workers continue to face unrelenting violence. Systematic attacks on the energy system have plunged towns and cities into darkness, shutting schools and hospitals and placing entire communities at risk. Energy workers are restoring power under fire, often at immense personal danger, to keep people safe through severe winter conditions.

Russia's deliberate targeting of civilians and infrastructure is a grave breach of international law and is deepening Ukraine's humanitarian crisis as temperatures fall well below freezing.

Working people always bear the heaviest cost of war. On 1 February, fifteen miners were killed when a Russian drone struck their bus in the Pavlohrad district. In territories under Russia's illegal occupation, reports expose forced labour, the suppression of trade union freedoms and the violent mistreatment of workers, alongside the wider killing and torture of civilians.

Tens of thousands of children have been abducted by Russia and subjected to abuse on an industrial scale. As always, women,

oppressed minorities and children also bear the brunt of war.

We stand with Ukrainian unions in their call for the restoration of labour rights and for a socially just reconstruction that embeds collective bargaining and rejects deregulation and privatisation.

We also stand with Ukrainian and other refugees in the UK and insist that their rights and safety are upheld.

The UK trade union movement has a proud history of standing in solidarity with victims of fascism and imperialist aggression.

A victory for Putin's regime would embolden authoritarian and far-right forces globally.

We therefore reaffirm our support for the Ukrainian people's right to determine their own future, call for the immediate withdrawal of Russian forces from all occupied territories, and support Ukrainian trade unions' appeals for the UK to provide the aid necessary to help secure a just and lasting peace.

Paul Nowak, General Secretary, Trades Union Congress

Andrea Egan, General Secretary, UNISON

Sharon Graham, General Secretary, Unite

Gary Smith, General Secretary, GMB

Daniel Kebede, General Secretary, NEU

Joanne Thomas, General Secretary, USDAW

Fran Heathcote, General Secretary, PCS

Jo Grady, General Secretary, UCU

Naomi Pohl, General Secretary, Musicians' Union

Dave Calfe, General Secretary, ASLEF

Chris Kitchen, General Secretary, NUM

Reposted from Anticapitalist Resistance

For information on solidarity with Ukraine in Scotland see Ukraine Solidarity Campaign Scotland

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Vietnam: A Victory Against Imperialism – Lessons for Ukraine Solidarity

Fifty years on from the historic victory of the Vietnamese people against imperialist intervention, it is vital for socialists in Scotland and across the world to reflect on the lessons of that struggle, particularly in the context of the ongoing war in Ukraine. The unwavering resistance of the Vietnamese people, in the face of immense military power, offers profound insights for those in solidarity with Ukraine's fight against Russian aggression.

One of the most striking parallels is the incredible resilience of a people fighting for their national liberation. Just as the Vietnamese people demonstrated an unyielding determination to defend their sovereignty against a powerful aggressor, so too have the people of Ukraine mounted a significant and inspiring resistance to the Russian invasion. This popular will to resist is a crucial element in the struggle for self-determination and should serve as a powerful reminder that the resolve of a determined nation can thwart

imperial ambitions. The people of Ukraine are “fighting for national liberation, independence, and democracy”.

The Vietnam War also starkly illustrated the inherent limitations of even the most formidable imperial power. Despite the vast resources and military might of the United States, they were ultimately forced into a humiliating retreat. This historical precedent suggests that Russia’s imperialist venture in Ukraine, despite its initial military advantages, may also ultimately fail in the face of sustained Ukrainian resistance and international pressure. The struggle in Vietnam serves as a powerful reminder that military might alone cannot overcome the determination of a people fighting for their freedom, a lesson that offers both hope and strategic insight for the Ukraine solidarity movement.

Furthermore, the victory in Vietnam was significantly aided by a powerful international solidarity movement. Mass mobilisations, protests, and various forms of support across the globe played a vital role in raising awareness, challenging dominant narratives, and providing crucial moral and political support to the Vietnamese resistance. This resonates directly with the urgent need for sustained and broad international solidarity with Ukraine today. The anti-Vietnam War movement, like the current efforts to support Ukraine, involved learning and action. The Ukraine solidarity movement can draw inspiration from this history, understanding that providing political, material, and moral support to the Ukrainian people, including refugees and anti-war activists, is indispensable. The Fourth International’s recent world congress of socialist organizations highlighted the importance of solidarity and building mass anti-racist movements and organisations for practical solidarity.

The struggle against the Vietnam War also necessitated a coordinated worldwide counter-strategy from progressive and anti-imperialist forces. Similarly, in the context of Ukraine, there is a pressing need to foster coordination among

different progressive forces globally to effectively challenge imperialism in all its forms. This means building bridges between struggles, from Ukraine to Palestine and beyond, based on the principle of “solidarity without exception”.

Moreover, the Vietnam War era witnessed the growth and radicalisation of left-wing movements internationally. The current war in Ukraine is similarly prompting significant debate and realignment within the left. The Ukraine solidarity movement can serve as a crucial space for learning and clarifying anti-imperialist principles in today’s context. This includes addressing complex issues such as “campism” – the problematic tendency to uncritically support states opposing Western imperialism, even if they are authoritarian – and pacifism, while striving to foster a more robust and principled internationalist left.

While there was widespread support for Vietnamese national liberation, views on the Vietnamese Communist Party were not always uniform. However, unity in action against US intervention and in support of Vietnamese self-determination remained paramount. This offers a vital lesson for the Ukraine solidarity movement, where diverse political perspectives exist regarding the Ukrainian government and the role of external powers like NATO. The central focus must remain on the fundamental principle of Ukraine’s right to self-determination and resistance against imperial aggression. Solidarity should be with the Ukrainian people’s resistance from below, including trade unionists, feminists, and social and democratic activists, while maintaining political independence and critically assessing the actions of all involved parties.

Ultimately, the struggle in Vietnam underscored that solidarity is an active commitment to stand alongside those fighting for their liberation. This principle must be at the heart of the Ukraine solidarity movement. Scottish socialists should actively seek ways to support the Ukrainian resistance,

not just through symbolic actions but through practical solidarity, such as supporting the Ukrainian left (like Sotsialnyi Rukh), providing humanitarian aid, and advocating for Ukraine's right to defend itself by whatever means necessary. This also includes building direct links with workers' movements in Ukraine and amplifying the voices of Ukrainian socialists.

By drawing on the historical lessons of Vietnam's victory against imperialism, the solidarity movement in Scotland can strengthen its support for Ukraine's struggle for national liberation, contributing to a just and lasting peace based on the principles of self-determination and internationalism. It is crucial to learn from the past to effectively confront the imperialist aggressions of the present.

Duncan Chapel