SOLIDARITY WITH UNIVERSITY WORKERS!

Education workers with the University and College Union (UCU) are preparing for another battle around pensions, casualisation, pay, and discrimination.

This is the third time workers have mobilised on these issues with the first time being in November 2019 and the second in February 2020.

This battle will open with 58 universities taking strike action for three days from December 1 to December 3, 2021, with further action short of strikes until May 2022.

The UCU will follow that up with a re-ballot.

The issues Universities have refused to reverse an over 35% cut to guaranteed pensions; staff pay has fallen by 20% in real terms and one third of academic workers are on insecure contracts.

The gender pay gap sits at 15% and there is massive underrepresentation of women and Black staff. Workers are increasingly overworked with the average worker putting in more than two days unpaid work each week.

Over half of education workers in higher education show probable signs of depression.

The way forward

The current structure of trade unions leaves them tied up with legal red tape. While present, student solidarity remains fleeting and appears only in times of open conflict.

Additionally, many workplaces have several unions that rarely act in concert with one another.

To fix this, we need to institutionalise worker-student solidarity by building workplace councils and committees that listen, represent and coordinate all workers in the higher education industry.

This is precisely what the IWW is doing.

We also encourage our members in higher education to work with traditional trade unions to expand the scope of their work, build bridges with other unions and help mobilise non-unionised staff.



DON'T CROSS PICKET LINES!

UCU Ulster worker's will take strike this week with pickets place at the various entrances to Magee University, University of Ulster and Queen's University.

Picket times are from this Wednesday 1st, Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd December from 08.00 - 11.30.

The Industrial Workers of the World would like to extend our solidarity with UCU worker's taking industrial action in their bid to fight continuing casualisation, workloads, pensions, pay cuts as well as equal pay. An injury to one, is an injury to all!

Solidarity with UCU - University and College Union Worker's on Strike!

SOLIDARITY WITH MIGRANT WORKERS!

Members of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) in Belfast and Derry participated in a show of solidarity with migrant workers following the deaths of 27 immigrants in the English Channel last week.

At one event in Derry, a solidarity action was held along the city's waterfront in the shadow of a number of famine statues. This location was a point of departure for thousands of locals fleeing the terror of famine that devastated countless communities.

Following the event, an IWW spokesperson said, "For a revolutionary union such as the IWW, we are clear that the class struggle doesn't start and finish at the factory floor. The struggle for working class liberation is fought in the workplace, on our streets and in our home every day of the week.

"As a union we have a long history and legacy that is intertwined with the horrors of emigration. It is vital that we stand with all migrant workers by challenging the bigotry, xenophobia and racism they face and say no more; be that along the borders of Poland, on the beaches of France, in detention centres or in the workplace."

Each of the solidarity actions had a number of speakers, including activists, poets and singers. Representations from unions and charities across the North were present.

INCARCERATED WORKERS

Incarcerated Workers Organising Committee has members across the country, who play a vital role within the IWW in an effort to support and show solidarity with members on the inside. Our work forms part of ongoing outreach to incarcerated workers across Ireland and discussing issues important to those on the inside.

To date we have slowly increased contact with prisoners who have been relating news diercetly affecting their daily lives from Covid-19 health concerns to workplace issues. From health and safe, training and areas of eduactional.

IWOC members are currently createing an Zine with news, writing, poetry and art, created by and for incarcerated workers.

If you are an incarcerated worker or you have a relative on the inside who you think would be interested then consider getting in touch and getting organised with other IWOC members on the inside.

Facebook: IWOC Ireland Online: onebigunion.ie/iwocireland

Or you can write to: IWOC P.O. Box 346, Derry, BT48 4FZ, Ireland.

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**.

Your can send your submissions directly to **Direct Action** to: ireland@iww.org.uk



The IWW spokesperson continued: "Protest actions such as these which are now happening throughout the country need to happen, in an effort to highlight and allow opportunity to listen to what migrant workers and their families are forced to endure.

"It is important that we put an end to the silence in the face of what people are witnessing on their television screens or newspapers. It is unacceptable to remain silent when fortress Europe is forcing migrant workers to suffocate, freeze or drown in an effort to try and achieve a better life for themselves or their families.

"At this event and others like it, our message must be clear, no human is illegal. We demand an immediate end to fortress Europe and its racist policies and practices. An injury to one, is an injury to all."

Solidarity to the migrant community and the friends and families of the 27!

MONTHLY LABOUR RIGHTS ONLINE CLINIC

The IWW Ireland Branch hold a regular online Labour Rights Clinic in order for members to raise issues of concern from their place of work as well as take part in eduactional presentations on workers rights and organising.

The next online **Labour Rights Clinic** takes place on **Thursday 9th December** at **8pm**.

For further information check Wobchat, IWW emailouts or you can email: **secretary.ireland@iww.org.uk**

IWW CONTACTS IN YOUR AREA

Members in each area meet each month to discuss, support and orgainse activity locally.

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: secretary.ireland@iww.org.uk
Online: onebigunion.ie
facebook.com/iwwireland









Don't Forget You Can Also Write To The IWW Ireland Branch At: P.O. Box 346, Derry City, BT48 4FZ.