

Statement published by Solidarité Socialiste avec les Travailleurs en Iran (Socialist Solidarity with Workers in Iran)

Solidarity with peoples fighting against war, colonialism and dictatorship,

No to the war waged by Israel and the United States against the peoples of the region!

The Trump administration has just joined the war launched by the colonialist and criminal state of Israel against the Islamic Republic of Iran. This war is leading the Middle East to the brink of disaster.

This war, which is illegitimate and illegal under international law, is the direct result of the impunity enjoyed by Netanyahu and his supremacist government. The same impunity that, despite the international arrest warrant against him, allows him to continue the genocide in Gaza. It is this immunity that allows the State of Israel to occupy part of Lebanon and Syria. Invoking the 'right to defend itself', the State of Israel has intensified its ongoing policy of massacring Palestinians with the aim of achieving genocide.

The military confrontation between an excessively armed power, supported by its US sponsor, and the Islamic Republic of Iran, a dictatorial state that has maintained itself for more than 46 years through repression and terror, is a disaster for the peoples.

Sheltered behind the Western military and political umbrella, the State of Israel intends to crush Iran, subjugate the surrounding countries, maintain its monopoly on nuclear weapons and become the main power in the region. A colonial and Western power dominating countries and peoples from the southern shores of the Mediterranean to the Strait of Hormuz.

Netanyahu and the deadly rush forward

In its headlong rush towards war, Benjamin Netanyahu's government is now attacking Iran, claiming to be defending itself against a hypothetical nuclear threat. This is despite the fact that the State of Israel is not a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and does not report on its own nuclear arsenal.

Netanyahu has opened a new front at a time when his government is increasingly unpopular, including in Israel. He has launched this new war as the global protest movement against the ongoing genocide in Gaza is growing and as citizen and activist initiatives to break the blockade imposed on Gaza have multiplied in recent times.

By attacking Iran now, Netanyahu is seeking to obscure the crimes and genocide he is perpetrating in Gaza. He has also silenced the criticism that was beginning to be timidly expressed by Western governments under pressure from public mobilization.

Finally, this intervention, supported by Trump, aims to obtain the complete capitulation of the Islamic Republic, or even the overthrow of the regime, which negotiations over its nuclear programme would not have allowed. The partition of Iran is even to be feared, given that Israeli-US policy consists of reshaping the region.

The Israeli army is bombing military targets, but also public administrations, strategic energy sites and infrastructure, as well as civilians. The bombings carried out by the State of Israel and the United States on nuclear sites are contrary to international law. They pose a risk of irreversible damage from an environmental and human point of view.

No one and nothing is safe in Iran, and hundreds of people have already been killed and thousands wounded. Cornered and forced to respond, the Islamic Republic of Iran is using ballistic missiles and other drones with random accuracy, causing civilian casualties in Israel.

The governments that arm and support Israel, starting with the United States and the countries of the European Union, including France, are complicit in the expansion of Israeli aggression against the peoples of Iran and throughout the region. They are all partners in these mass killings.

Finally, the precision with which senior members of the Revolutionary Guards are being eliminated indicates the extent to which the State of Israel benefits from complicity, right up to the highest levels of the Islamic

Republic of Iran. Netanyahu is counting on certain sectors of the Islamic regime, notably the Revolutionary Guards, to bring about a change of power in Iran.

It is up to the people of Iran to decide their future!

History clearly shows that there is no path to democracy in the shadow of war and imperialist intervention. From Iraq to Afghanistan, there is no shortage of examples of military intervention leading to human and political disasters.

War claims new civilian victims every day, but it also threatens the long and courageous struggle of the people of Iran against a repressive regime, the latest culmination of which has been the 'Woman, Life, Freedom' movement. In recent months, social mobilizations in Iran had been gaining momentum. With this war, Netanyahu has temporarily halted this dynamic. In doing so, he is doing the Islamic Republic a great service.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is a dictatorship founded on the blood of its opponents, on the deprivation of freedoms, on the systematic repression of women and youth, and on the crushing of social movements and national aspirations.

We stand firmly alongside the people of Iran, both in their ongoing resistance to dictatorship and in their right to live free from foreign military aggression.

In unison with all those who have been fighting in Iran for decades for freedom, equality and social justice, we reject any regime change 'from above' and through foreign intervention. The overthrow of the Islamic Republic must come only from the struggle of the people of Iran.

As the United States enters into war with Iran, it is urgent that voices be raised against widespread conflagration and human and environmental disaster.

We demand that the international community exert pressure to immediately end this irresponsible escalation.

The State of Israel and the United States are not the only states in the world to absolve themselves of international law, but they are the only ones to do so on such a scale without being subject to any sanctions. This double standard is scandalous.

We affirm that Netanyahu and Trump are a threat to the world. They must be stopped!

We urgently demand:

- An immediate end to Israeli and US aggression against Iran
- An immediate end to the regional escalation of war
- Solidarity with political prisoners and human rights defenders in Iran
- Support for social and democratic demands
- An end to repression by the Islamic Republic of Iran

As we have been doing for months, we continue to demand:

- Immediate lifting of the blockade of Gaza and an end to settlement in the West Bank
- Immediate sanctions against Israel
- An immediate end to all arms trade with Israel
- Termination of the Association Agreement between the European Union and the State of Israel
- Global mobilization to end genocide, apartheid and settlement in Palestine