

A Message of Solidarity from Independent Labour Organizations in Iran to Workers, Trade Unions, and Labour Organizations Worldwide



With warm and comradely greetings to all labour organizations and all those fighting for the emancipation of the working class who have gathered in Geneva for the 114th International Labour Conference.

Your gathering underscores the necessity of international working-class solidarity and unity, while reaffirming the fundamental principle that the emancipation of the working class can only be achieved by the working class itself.

Comrade workers!

Through unrestrained repression, the waging of regional wars, and the escalating threat of a Third World War, the capitalist system seeks to preserve and intensify the exploitation of workers across the globe. At the same time, it strives to shift the heavy burden of its recurring crises onto the shoulders of workers and other toiling people.

A concrete example of such capitalist wars is the “Forty-Day War” imposed on the workers and the people of Iran. The possibility of its resurgence in various forms remains ever present, whether in the immediate future or at a later stage.

The “Forty-Day War” was an aggressive conflict waged by U.S. imperialism and the Israeli regime in pursuit of their respective hegemonic ambitions globally and in the Middle East. It sought to overthrow, weaken, or force the capitulation of the Islamic Republic, with the objective of diminishing its influence—especially its pan-Islamist orientation and regional position—in favour of U.S. imperial interests and Zionist objectives.

Thus, alongside the hegemony of U.S. imperialism and the expansionist policies of the Israeli regime in the Middle East, the reactionary and anti-people policies of the Islamic Republic—particularly its efforts to expand its political and military influence in the region—have been among the key factors contributing to the escalation of regional tensions and conflicts, and have facilitated the warmongering of the aggressor powers.

For years, the Iranian working class under the rule of the Islamic Republic has been suffering the effects of these crises in an unbearable manner. The political structure of capitalist governance in Iran has stripped workers and the working masses of their most fundamental human rights and has led to a profound social breakdown.

The suppression of workers, women, students, intellectuals, and activists defending the rights of national minorities, as well as the prohibition of human rights advocacy, the imposition of censorship and systemic suffocation of free expression, internet disruptions, and restrictions on access to information, form the regime’s prevailing methods in Iran. These measures are implemented through imprisonment, torture, and relentless executions.

Inflation, poverty, unemployment, job dismissals, and low wages are the “legal” and routine mechanisms through which the parliament and the government impose anti-human and anti-labour policies on working people, by enacting laws that undermine their rights.

Any form of protest against the current situation is criminalised under the accusation of “disturbing national security.” The right to organise and establish trade unions, and to struggle for fundamental labour legislation, is treated by the judiciary of the capitalist system of the Islamic Republic as “war against the system,” an offence punishable by the harshest penalties, including the death penalty.

As a member of the International Labour Organization, the Islamic Republic is bound to uphold the organization’s fundamental conventions, including those guaranteeing freedom of association and collective bargaining. Yet the regime has consistently failed to respect these conventions, agreements, and basic labour standards, and has not demonstrated any genuine compliance or commitment to them.

Despite repeated warnings and efforts by activists and independent labour organisations in Iran and around the world, institutions affiliated with the Islamic Republic—such as the so-called “Supreme Centre of the Islamic Labour Councils”—continue to send their representatives to the annual conferences of the International Labour Organization, instead of genuine and independent representatives of workers’ organisations.

It is even more regrettable that individuals affiliated with the regime and involved in violations of workers’ rights have been elevated to positions on the Board of Directors and other committees. Accordingly, we, as workers, independent labour organisations, and retirees, demand the exclusion of the Islamic Republic’s representatives from the International Labour Organization and insist on the participation of authentic and independent representatives of workers within this body.

Long live the class unity of workers of all countries!

27 May 2026

Haft Tapeh Sugarcane Workers Union

Coordination Committee to Help Establish Labor Organizations

Khuzestan Retired Workers

Group of Retirees’ Unification