

Statement by the Swedish Trade Union Platform in Support of the Truck Drivers' Strike and Other Working-Class Struggles in Iran

Since Thursday, May 22 (Khordad 1), truck drivers across Iran have launched a nationwide strike spanning more than 70 cities. This collective action is a clear and organized response to harsh living conditions, lack of job safety, systemic injustice in the freight distribution system, and the regime's complete ignorance to the trade unions and human demands of this sector of the labour force.

The struggle of the truck drivers is not a temporary outburst, but the outcome of decades of unanswered demands, experiences of repression, and the formation of class consciousness. What we are witnessing today is a fusion of everyday grievances with a broader structure rooted in the anti-worker policies and dysfunctional economic order of the Islamic Republic.

In response to this protest movement, the authorities, true to their usual pattern have refused any real dialogue or accountability. Instead, they have turned once again to tools of repression, threats, fabricated charges, and intimidation in an effort to silence this vital segment of the workforce. However, this time, the drivers—through broader organization, public outreach, and solidarity with other sectors of the working class—have managed to partially neutralize the machinery of repression and bring their narrative to the public.

The demands of the drivers go beyond the transport sector. Their voices echo the broader condition of workers, teachers, retirees, nurses, and other struggling groups: exhausting labour, incomes below the poverty line, soaring fuel costs, inadequate social insurance, and unsafe roads all reflecting the unjust priorities of the ruling system.

The truck drivers' uprising, along with the concurrent protests by bakers facing skyrocketing input costs, power outages, unaffordable utilities, and unreliable government subsidies, clearly indicates that wage, livelihood, and workplace crises have become deeply interconnected. These uprisings cannot be analysed in isolation or as merely sectoral disputes. They are part of a broader structural condition, the solution to which lies not in short-term promises, but in the independent organization of the labour force and the reconstruction of class relations based on social justice and genuine democracy.

The Swedish Trade Union Platform expresses full solidarity with truck drivers' protests and emphasizes the necessity of building a united front of independent labour organizations and working-class actors.

Such unity can lay the foundation for a new order—one in which labour is not a voiceless tool for profit and repression, but a conscious, organized agent of its own destiny.

As long as the existing system is built upon exploitation and the suppression of independent voices and independent trade unions, no sustainable solution to the problems of workers and the toilers will be possible. What is unfolding in the streets, on the roads, and in the bakeries is not merely protest, it is the opening of a new horizon in the struggle for dignity, security, and equality.

The Swedish Trade Unions Platform reaffirms its commitment to supporting these struggles and to collaborating with independent forces and trade unions inside Iran strives to advance a human class alternative.

Through unity and organization, our struggle moves closer to victory.

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