

International Alliance in Support of Workers in Iran (IASWI)-Canada:

In solidarity with the Canadian Union of Postal Workers

The International Alliance in Support of Workers in Iran-Canada considers the Canadian postal workers and their union, the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW), as one of the strongest allies and supporters of workers' and human rights in Iran. CUPW has a long history of standing up for workers' rights in Canada and around the World. CUPW has supported justice and freedom seeking struggles from Palestine and Iran to South Africa and Colombia for the achievement of workers' and democratic rights.

Workers and people in Iran have been facing a repressive regime that has no respect for workers' or any other fundamental human rights. IASWI, with the support of progressive organizations like CUPW, has been organizing incessant campaigns throughout many years in support of workers' struggles in Iran and against the repressive Iranian regime. At the same time, Palestinians have been repressed and their land unjustly occupied by the Israeli regime for many years without any sustainable and positive social change. Although it is primarily the responsibility of Israel's progressive forces to push back against the Israeli regime's aggressive and racist policies towards Palestinians, at the same time, it is our obligation as the working class around the world to stand in solidarity with the oppressed people of Palestine; an injury to one is an injury to all, and that's exactly what the CUPW has been doing by supporting workers from Iran and Palestine and the rest of the world.

We therefore strongly condemn the Conservative Harper government and their ultra right-wing neoliberal agenda which supports environmental and corporate crimes around the world with impunity while attacking progressive organizations, like CUPW, fighting for peace and equality. We also condemn the Harper government's anti-union agenda, including the regressive Bill C-377, which is an attack on trade union rights. We also denounce the politicized false accusations and propaganda of B'nai Brith Canada and Sun Media/QMI against CUPW.

It is important to emphasize on the fact that CUPW is not alone in supporting the international campaign of boycott, divestment and sanctions until Israeli state recognizes the right of Palestinian people to self-determination and complies with international obligations including the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes. Countless number of student, labour and progressive organizations around the world has supported such campaigns. By targeting CUPW these urgent issues will not go away. We stand in solidarity with the Canadian Union of Postal Workers and all its members to make their collective decisions. Furthermore, we, along with the Iranian working class, stand in solidarity with the oppressed people and the working class and progressive organizations of Palestine for freedom, equality and justice.

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