

UNITED FOR A JUST FUTURE

IndustriALL Global Union 3rd Congress
14-15 September 2021

Resolution of solidarity with the Afghan people

IndustriALL Global Union and its affiliates are extremely concerned about the future of Afghanistan under the Taliban control, particularly about human and labour rights, as well as the situation for women and girls

In the debacle of a departure of NATO forces, precipitated by the rapid advance of the Taliban, some Afghans were able to escape their country and take refuge in neighbouring countries, in Europe or in the United States. However, this is a drop in the bucket compared to all those people, especially women, young people, workers, who are now prisoners in their own country.

Priority targets: women and trade unionists

Women are in permanent danger. Over the last twenty years, they have gradually won back some of their rights, only to see their fight for dignity reduced to nothing in a few hours.

They cannot be the first victims again. IndustriALL and its affiliates consider it outrageous that the Taliban ban most education for girls and women imposing brutal punishments and confinement of women to their homes unless a male family member escorts them. Attacks on women at work and in education have resumed, as have forced marriages. Their lives, their dignity and their integrity are very seriously threatened.

Trade unionists are also prime targets of this regime. As soon as they arrived in Kabul, the Taliban confiscated the property of the trade unions and banned their activities, accusing them of violating Islamic laws. In the areas now controlled by the Taliban, trade union activists are unable to resume their trade union activities. To continue an activity would mean risking one's life!

UN Secretary General António Guterres calls for the use of "all possible tools" to end the human rights atrocities in Afghanistan.

Therefore, meeting on 14-15 September 2021 in virtual mood, the 3rd World Congress resolves:

- IndustriALL stands in solidarity with Afghanistan's people, workers and the democratic union movement!
- Afghan people, especially women, must be able to receive support and solidarity

from the rest of the world!

- IndustriALL affiliates will put pressure on governments to stop these atrocities!
- IndustriALL calls on governments to welcome with dignity refugees from Afghanistan!
- Trade unionists will mobilise to denounce this barbaric regime that endangers women, trade unionists and a whole people. More than ever, democracy and human rights must be defended ardently and without concessions!

