



WORKERS COUNTERATTACK

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VISIBLE ENEMY IS CAPITALISM

JANUARY



20 days strike of workers at OTE-Deutsche Telekom demanding collective contract



21/01 Demonstration of students and teachers against the governmental bill for University Education



22/01 Rally organized by Lesbos Regional Trade Union



25/01 Mobilization against the privatization of LARCO (General Mining and Metallurgic Company).

FEBRUARY



01/2 Intervention of Athens Trade Union of workers in Commerce against the abolition of Sunday as a day off



07/02 Protest of the Trade Union of Workers in Hotels-Tourism for Collective contracts



25/02 Demonstrations of Lesbos Regional Trade Union against the governmental attempt to turn Greek islands into prisons for refugees and the constant presence of repression forces

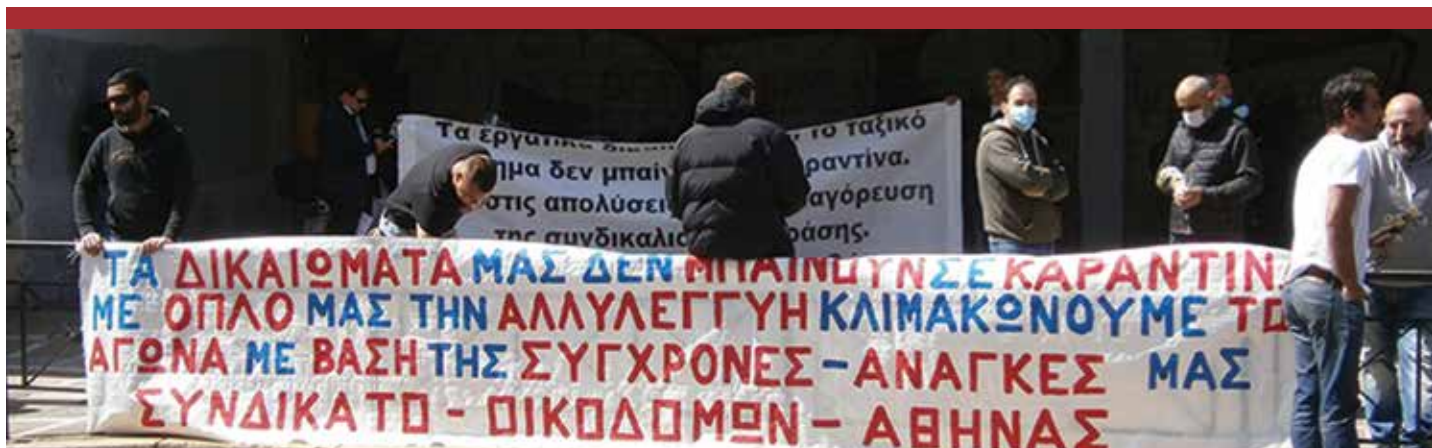


MARCH



08/03 demonstration for the International Day of Working Women

APRIL



14/04 Mobilization of the Trade Union of Construction Workers demanding special measures to be taken against the pandemic



24/04 Demonstration of students and teachers against the governmental bill for state Education



28/04 Moto-demonstration organized by the Trade Union of Workers in Tourism-Hotels

MAY



07/05 Mobilization of Workers in Arts for the protection and assertion of their working rights



13/05 Symbolic occupation of LARCO employees at the company's offices in Athens

25/05 Mobilization of Schneider Electric workers against the closure of the factory



The government of ND following in the footsteps of the former government of SYRIZA, has voted for a bill, instigating the total abolition of the Social and Public character of Social Security. This new bill raises the age-limit for pensions, targets the Heavy and Unhealthy working Rights and fully privatizes Social Security. In this way, workers are turned into “investors”, that will “gamble” their money in the Stock Market, risking the hard work of an entire life.

The class-oriented trade unions have taken the lead, organizing strikes and rallies on the 18th of February, in a series of Greek cities and towns. The strike came as a result of mass procedures and General Assemblies of Trade Unions and regional Trade Unions throughout the country, as the majority of the General Union of Greek Workers (GSEE) has once again proven its pro-employer role, having refused to declare a general strike, in front of the total dissolution of the Public Insurance.



The grand general strike rally of Trade Unions in Athens



The grand rally of PAME, in Athens

With the flags and banners of their trade unions, the workers demonstrate for Total, Mandatory and Public Social Insurance



Strike rally in Thessaloniki



On the 25th of February, the GSEE (General Confederation of Greek Workers, member of ETUC), organized its 37th Congress, which was a parody of a Congress. 25th of February has been recorded as one of the blackest pages of History of the workers and trade union movement of our country. The 37th Congress of GSEE revealed to many workers the actual truth. Who were the ones who invested so much in lying and repression for so long and who in real, living processes; who were the thugs and who were the militant workers. Who have really avoided a real Congress, alive, with debate, for all the things that concern workers. The attempt to accept the extended fraud and the participation of employers with physical presence was accompanied with unprecedented images and degradation. With a well organized plan of repression from all the state mechanisms, with Special Forces, undercover police and thugs.

For yet again, the forces that have the majority of GSEE's leadership have proven that they express the interest of the employers and not the workers, by offering their faith to the big capitalists, having organized a Congress under the strong presence of repression forces and the police, without any discussion for the real problems of the working class. Workers that actively participate in collective processes, saw more clearly the main objective of this approach. The goal was to throw the class-oriented forces out of the GSEE. This was the choice of the government, the industrialists and their people in the workers and trade union movement. The regularity advocated by the government requires that there will be a 'social partner' in their plans. They want a Confederation that is an applauder to capitalist development, a state protection institution, a system of exploitation. An institution that will engage in «social dialogues», cutting away what is left of workers rights, a co-creator of anti-workers plans. These are the forces that support NATO and the European Union and have allied with ETUC and the ITUC.

The class-oriented trade unions have been mobilized, in the early hours of the day of GSEE's congress, demonstrating and shouting aloud the motto: "Unions of workers, not of the government and the employers". Thousands of workers took part in the rally and were there to oppose a congress processes that reveal in the most vulgar of ways, that the majority of GSEE's leadership are the ones investing in lies and suppression, while pouring their venom against all class-oriented struggle. The 37th Congress of GSEE was in fact "tailored" to fit the Association of Greek Industrialists (SEV), the government and the parties of the bourgeoisie: ND-PASOK-SYRIZA. They forbade the entrance to all reporters, while at the same time offering thousands of euros in commercials for the Mass Media, suggesting that this was a "democratic congress".

During this period, the class-oriented forces of PAME was in the front the struggle for the emancipation of the trade unions, from the employers and their state, towards the empowerment and the reorganization of the workers and trade union movement. For the strengthening the trade unions, the organization of workers in their ranks, their active involvement, and their class orientation.

From early morning, the unions gathered to protest against the Congress-parody





The repressive forces protected the majority in the GSEE leadership from class-oriented unions and protesting workers



The large rally of the unions in the area of the Congress



Humorous theatrical sketch that satirizes the “monkeys” -illegitimate representatives at the GSEE Congress



In the area where the Congress is held, the police conducted face-control and checks on the delegates



Until late in the afternoon, the class unions protested

With the new capitalist crisis already here and the pandemic catalyzing its unfolding, the relentless face of capitalism is revealed once again. Governments around the world, in the name of managing the pandemic, have rushed to legislate measures aimed not at substantial health prevention and protection but at the benefit of employers and capital.

Class unions from the beginning of the pandemic have been thrown into the battle of the protection of health and working rights of workers and all people. Struggling daily in the workplace, against the calls of the government, the capital and the majority of the leadership of GSEE who called and call for unity of workers and employers against the pandemic. The phrase «individual responsibility» became the favorite slogan of the government and employers, to hide the huge responsibilities they have in ruining the public health system.

The workers joined their voices along with the voices of the health workers and the workers in the supermarkets, demanding substantial protection and safety measures. They have shown that the real virus is the capitalist mode of production that treats the health and safety of the people as a cost and a source of profit.

19/3 Mobilization of the Federation of Hospital Doctors of Greece (OENGE)

The first major mobilization of doctors across Europe. With banners and slogans, they demanded, among other things, immediate measures to deal with and protect against coronavirus. They demanded immediate supply of medical personnel with the necessary personal protective equipment, to immediately make mass recruitments of doctors, nurses and ambulances, with the priority of staffing the front lines. They demanded the government immediately proceed with the opening of all ICU beds but also to proceed with the implementation of the infrastructure of the private health sector. During the mobilization, 20 doctors lined up behind banners and with raised fists symbolically. They sent the message of resistance to the extent of banning public gatherings of more than 10 people.





**WE BREAK THE SILENCE
MASKED MOUTHS STILL
HAVE VOICE
HEALTHCARE IS NOT
A COMMODITY**

07/04, National Action Dat for Health.

Hospital doctors and class unions held a series of mobilizations and actions, demanding that the government take effective measures to protect workers and the people from the pandemic. Thousands of workers responded to hospital doctors' call, joined forces with them.



hospital of Attiko



hospital of Evaggelismos



hospital of Kat



hospital of Laiko



hospital of Sotiria



hospital of Tzaneio



The government responds to the demands of the hospital doctors with repressive forces

Dozens of unions workers' in commerce across the country highlighted the dire situation unfolding in supermarkets, shops, offices, warehouses, bringing to the forefront demands for immediate protection of workers against coronation. On April 15, traders sent a loud message through their mobilizations, demanding immediate measures to protect their health from the coronavirus

15/04 National Action Day for supermarket employees



Common Position Of Trade Unions of Europe On The Developments Because Of The Coronavirus. We Fight To Protect The Health And Lives Of Workers

The unions that we sign this text we salute the heroic contribution of workers, scientists in Healthcare, hospitals, sanitation and a series of other services who under, even life-threatening conditions, exhaustion, under-staffed and unprepared prevention systems, fight for the protection of the lives of the workers, of all the people.

The consequences of this epidemic are not accidental or a natural phenomenon. But the coronavirus situation demonstrates the tragic consequences and risks to peoples' lives from policies that treat Healthcare as an issue of individual responsibility and as a field of enormous profitability. These consequences are a result of the under-staffing of public hospitals and services, lack of infrastructure, underfunding, a severe shortage of medical and nursing staff. The EU guidelines that have dismantled peoples' social security, prevention and health care systems for the benefit of the big Healthcare-Insurance Corporations are political choices with tragic consequences and risks for the peoples of Europe. The Governments, instead of taking measures for the shortages in public healthcare systems, they announce funding and financial assistance to the big corporations.

Characteristic of the situation is a number of Corporations that do not take the necessary measures to protect their employees, but also the phenomena of profiteering in pharmaceutical products, which enrich the health-pharmaceutical corporations.

As trade unions, we have the responsibility to inform workers in our countries of the latest anti-workers' developments and planning that have been promoted recently because of the coronavirus. The stance of employers and governments in our countries highlight a number of common risks and problems for workers, as in many countries are being imposed or planned similar anti-workers' measures.

Measures that, on the one hand, will carry the financial consequences and cost of the situation for the coronavirus on the backs of workers eg layoffs, non-renewals of contracts, especially for tourism workers etc. On the other hand, employers with the support of governments find the opportunity to promote the imposition and adopt anti-workers measures and plans, such as deregulating the workers' daily working time in line with employers' preferences, imposing casual work, with measures such as teleworking even after the outbreak of the coronavirus.

In particular, we denounce the governments that even in these circumstances, instead of taking the necessary measures to protect peoples' health; they are persecuting trade unions and trade unionists that defend workers' health, denouncing the understaffed services and problems in healthcare systems.

Workers' lives and health cannot be put under the criterion of profit. The workers paid the consequences of the crisis; they will not pay for the consequences of privatization and destruction of Public Healthcare Systems.

LIST OF DEMANDS

- Staffing of hospitals and services with the recruitment of permanent medical-nursing etc staff
- Full equipment of all public services with the necessary disinfection and protection materials and also these to be provided by the state free of charge to the population to stop unacceptable
- It is the responsibility of governments to secure additional days of leave, with full remuneration and insurance:
 - To those workers who are
 - Employees who are forced to abstain from work because of emergency preventive measures.
 - Those who are called to take care of a sick child or an elderly member of their
 - Those who are called to stay with their children at home, due to the preventive closure of schools and day care
- Immediately stop measures such as foreclosures, auctioning of homes, cuts of water supply and power due to the debts of the
- Special care for refugees – immigrants and their families, to improve living and working conditions. Decent, hygienic, accommodation for the refugees -not concentration camps. Free, complete health care. Free and quality
- The overall cost to be borne by the states and the various big business groups and not the workers in the private and public sector

The peoples of Europe have already paid enormously for the huge cuts in public healthcare systems, the commercialization of healthcare and social insurance, the imposition of the brutal labor relations. We do not accept to pay for the consequences of the EU-governments-business groups' policy.

If all of the above measures are not taken immediately, then in the event of a serious epidemic or an emergency serious health event in any country, the consequences can be even more dangerous.



**«May Day 2020. The visible enemy is Capitalism.
People will not pay again!»**

With this slogan, the working class of Greece honored this year's May Day. The class unions, with a grand symbolic demonstration in Syntagma and symbolic rallies across the country, paid tribute to all the dead of the pandemic around the world and to the heroic doctors and nurses who lost their lives fighting against the pandemic in the ruined health systems of even the most "developed" capitalist countries.

The pandemic confirmed the slogan that: "without us the gears do not turn"

It was clear that the monopoly groups are committing crimes against workers. They are the ones who choose how many people will live with sole criterion the profitability of their groups. The pandemic has shown once more that the system of exploitation cannot be humanized. Only those who have an interest defend such a rotten system: the monopoly groups, their political staff and the trade union elite, the leadership of GSEE, whose president during the pandemic mocked the workers' struggles. Barbarism cannot be our future.

Employees need to be prepared from now on for the next day, strengthening our organization in every workplace. We have already paid a lot! We have paid the 10-year crisis of the exploitation system with countless sacrifices. We will not pay again.

**They are not invincible!
They are not invincible in the face of the organized power of the people!
Law is the right of the worker!
Long live International Workers Day, a day of struggle of workers
around the world!**

The big demonstration in Athens



The big dempnostration in Athens



The big dempnstration in Athens



THESSALONIKI



IRAKLEIO



PATRA



ΙΟΑΝΝΙΝΑ



LARISSA



SAMOS



This year marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the World Federation of Trade Unions. 75 years of struggle and giving. 75 years of sacrifice for the world workers movement. Through a difficult course and adverse conditions, the WFTU managed to become the class pole for the world workers movement.

PAME, faithful to the principles and ideals of proletarian internationalism and solidarity, became a member of the World Federation of Trade Unions in 2000. With all its forces from then until today, it supports WFTU and its members at all levels, helping to strengthen the unions and the ties at bilateral and sectoral level. With the aim of reorganizing the workers movement, this year we honor the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the WFTU.



Event of the OTA Union in Athens
for the 75 years of WFTU



Event of the OTA Union in Larissa
for the 75 years of WFTU





PAME at the Conference of the Federation of Public Service in Portugal



PAME at the meeting of European Trade Unions of WFTU



PAME's solidarity with the workers of France



PAME at the Sosyal-Is Conference in Turkey



Award for PAME and WFTU by the Ambassador of Palestine for their contribution to solidarity and action for the struggle of the Palestinian people



Meeting of the Federation of Workers in Pharmaceuticals with the Petrol-İs trade union in Turkey



Message of solidarity of PAME to the people of Venezuela



PAME at the Nakliyat-İs Conference in Turkey



WFTU honoring the International Working Woman Day

The 17th Congress of TUI in Construction, Wood and Building Materials (UITBB) in Athens



3rd International Congress of WFTU TUI in Tourism in Egypt



Meeting of WFTU with the Trade Union of Workers of Athens in Tourism-Hotels



march 25, strike of USB in Italy



The 27th GFTU Congress in Syria



Foundation Congress of the WFTU TUI in Textile, Clothing, Leather





PAME (ALL WORKERS MILITANT FRONT), WFTU AFFILIATE

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