



# PANERGATI KI

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**5 SEPTEMBER**

**AT THE THESSALONIKI  
INTERNATIONAL FAIR**

**THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE  
FLOODED THE STREETS  
OF THESSALONIKI FOR THE  
GREAT NATIONWIDE RALLY  
OF THE WORKING PEOPLE**

**MONEY FOR  
WAGES, HEALTH  
AND EDUCATION!**

**NO SACRIFICE  
FOR THEIR WARS  
AND PROFITS!**

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# Editorial

**Our answer to the barbarity of the policy of war and exploitation is a strong, organised movement of workers and the people!**

Thessaloniki was flooded with thousands upon thousands of demonstrators on Saturday 5 September. Workers, small farmers struggling to make a living, the self-employed, pensioners and young people arrived from across the country and sent a resounding message: We refuse to sacrifice our needs and our lives for the profits of business groups and the wars of the US, NATO and the EU.

The sight of those tens of thousands of demonstrators was buried; it found no place in the “objective” media. YMCA Square, the unions’ banners, the march that filled Tsimiski Street from YMCA Square to the port, the voices of thousands of people demanding a life with rights - all were treated as though they had never existed. At the same time, the government’s announcements at the Thessaloniki International Fair were given endless hours of television airtime and pages of coverage.

This selective silence is a deliberate choice. The media owned by shipowners and industrialists have every reason to put a favourable gloss on a policy that serves their owners’ interests. They have every reason to play down collective struggle, especially when thousands of people take to the streets with their unions and demonstrate the strength of organised class struggle.

Their war and their profits are present in our lives every day.

They are there in wages that run out before the end of the month. In pensions that cannot cover food, bills and medicines. In rents that swallow up incomes, in understaffed schools, in hospitals facing shortages, in workplaces where the intensification of work and the absence of protective measures threaten workers’ health and lives.

The Prime Minister’s announcements at the Thessaloniki International Fair confirmed the government’s priorities, which the other parties of capital also share. Billions are made available for business groups, armaments and deeper involvement in war plans. When it comes to the needs of workers and the people, they invoke “fiscal limits”, what the economy can afford, and the promise that growth will eventually reach everyone.

Workers, however, have experience. Growth measured in business groups’ profits does not translate into better wages, shorter working hours, decent housing and public services. For the people to win, they must confront the policy of profit that treats their needs as a cost.

Allowances are no substitute for the 13th and 14th salary payments or the 13th and 14th pension payments. The high cost of living calls for substantial increases in wages and pensions, the abolition of unfair indirect taxes on basic necessities, food, energy and fuel, and a decisive increase in the tax-free income allowance for working-class and other ordinary households.

Housing cannot be a source of profit for banks, investment funds and large construction groups while workers and young couples cannot secure a home. Health and education need funding, staff and infrastructure that meet real needs. These are rights we have paid for through our work and our taxes.

**The great rally in Thessaloniki shows the way. What is needed now is continuity, organisation and an escalation of struggle and strike action.**

The anger building up in every working-class and ordinary household can become a force for organisation, demands and struggle. Through participation in trade unions, general assemblies and struggle committees, and through daily conversations with colleagues. Through active unions that organise the fight in every workplace and are

already preparing the next steps in struggle and strike action.

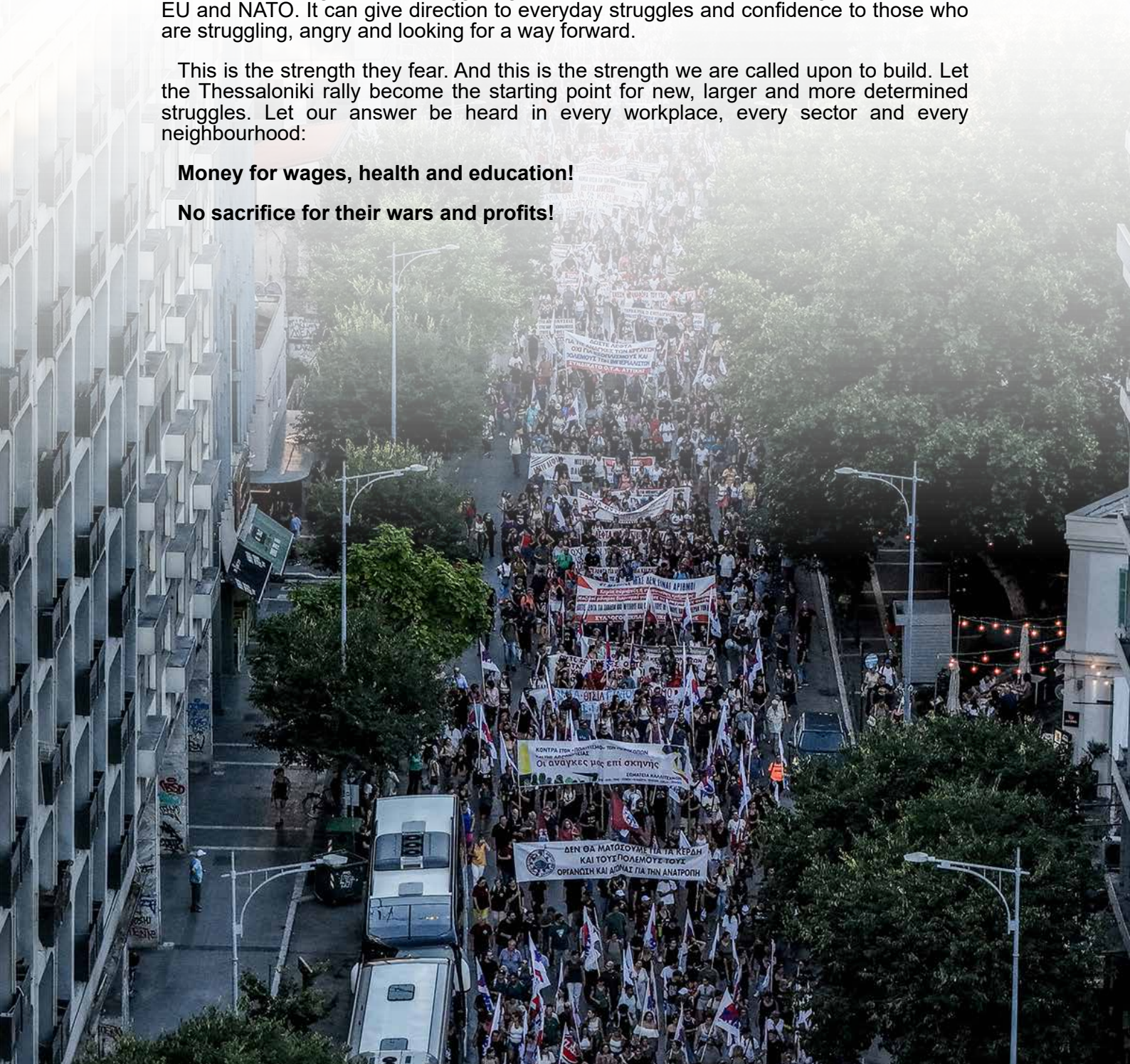
**30 October will be an important milestone in struggle and strike action, with the International Day of Action by dockworkers' unions from seven countries and 40 ports.** This struggle unites workers across borders and sends a message of internationalist and class solidarity against war and exploitation. Every union must take responsibility for preparing it, through workplace information campaigns and solidarity initiatives. Everywhere, we must strengthen the demand for higher wages and pensions. For collective bargaining agreements and a seven-hour day, a five-day week and a 35-hour working week. For public, free health and education. For effective protective measures in the workplace. For no participation in imperialist wars.

Joint action by workers, small farmers, the self-employed, pensioners and young people can strengthen the struggle against the policies of capital, the government, the EU and NATO. It can give direction to everyday struggles and confidence to those who are struggling, angry and looking for a way forward.

This is the strength they fear. And this is the strength we are called upon to build. Let the Thessaloniki rally become the starting point for new, larger and more determined struggles. Let our answer be heard in every workplace, every sector and every neighbourhood:

**Money for wages, health and education!**

**No sacrifice for their wars and profits!**



## PAME press conference on the Platform of Demands and Struggle for 2026 - 2027



On behalf of the PAME Secretariat, we welcome you to today's press conference. We are presenting the direction of our struggle, the platform of struggle and demands for 2026-2027, around which labour centres, federations and trade unions will organise the struggles we need.

The first major milestone is tomorrow's nationwide rally of the working people, at 5.30 p.m. in YMCA Square, under the slogan "Money for wages, health and education - No sacrifice for their war and profits!" All roads, from every part of the country - Attica, the Peloponnese, Central and Western Greece, Epirus and Thessaly, Macedonia and Thrace - lead to Thessaloniki.

Tomorrow, the city will be overwhelmed. Blue- and white-collar workers, farmers, pensioners, the self-employed and students will become a great popular river of struggle.

We will not join the trade in empty expectations conducted by the New Democracy government, the accommodating opposition - PASOK, SYRIZA and Tsipras - and the pitiful majority in the GSEE leadership.

All of them are lined up against the people's rights. Their calculations are tied to costed programmes; their ranks are aligned with the interests of capital. The Tsipras programme presented here in Thessaloniki is cut from the same cloth. The 13-hour working day, the gutting of collective bargaining agreements, cuts to wages and pensions because the economy supposedly cannot afford them and they represent a fiscal cost, the slaughter in workplaces, the abolition of Sunday as a day off, and so on - all are accepted as they stand. Everything remains in place, with new measures to be added on top in the name of so-called higher productivity and the needs of the war economy, which above all means a war on the lives of the working class and the poorer sections of the people. The Tsipras party also defended shipping capital and went so far as to say it was planning a "special defence industry zone in Thrace". A profit bonanza and tax exemptions for big employers.

We are here to change the agenda, to put the needs of the working class and the people at the centre, and to organise a militant response to overturn anti-people policies.

The government presents its "road map to 2030" and talks about growth, stability and a strong economy. PASOK and Tsipras counter with a supposedly "new production model".

All of this converges on capital's basic strategy: the discipline of blood-stained surpluses and costed programmes; competitiveness and profits for business groups; and deeper adaptation to the war economy. They may disagree on certain secondary aspects, on who will hold the steering wheel, but they agree on the commitments and the destination.

The tools used to skin the people alive are blood-stained surpluses, fiscal restrictions and permanent spending "cutters" applied to people's needs. The primary surplus of €5.185 billion so far, €3 billion above target, is the result of tax robbery, mainly through indirect taxes levied on soaring prices.

Listed business groups recorded €12.1 billion in net profits and distributed €6.1 billion in dividends. Their economy "can afford" €7 billion in NATO spending in 2026, €500,000 a day for a frigate in the Red Sea and €45 million a year for the Greek Patriot systems in Saudi Arabia. It can afford tax exemptions and privileges for shipowners, bankers and industrialists. But when it comes to our needs, "the economy cannot afford it".

Workers and ordinary families are the permanent victims. The real average wage remains 18% below its level before the capitalist crisis; one in four people is at risk of poverty; wages and pensions run out by the 20th of the month; and thousands of families count every euro for food, electricity, rent or mortgage payments. The high cost of living, the commodification of health and education, those killed and maimed at work and by natural disasters - all these are the conditions on which business groups' profits grow. This is their development; this is what the parties of capital preach.

To secure the EU's €800 billion for armaments, they demand cheaper, more flexible and disciplined labour, a minimum wage set by the government, obstacles to collective bargaining agreements, a 13-hour working day with endlessly flexible schedules, unpaid overtime, the abolition of Sunday as a day off, and work into extreme old age.

That is why they want unions that take the lead in implementing anti-worker policies! The pitiful majority in the GSEE leadership has achieved a small miracle of "social partnership". In its declaration for the Thessaloniki International Fair, it calls a rally to celebrate the disgraceful "Social Agreement" with the New Democracy government and the industrialists - the tombstone of collective bargaining agreements.

It denounces the 13-hour day but does not demand the repeal of the anti-worker laws that impose it. It calls for "quality time", but where is a worker to find it when 16-hour days and two or three jobs keep them enslaved from morning to night? It does not dare utter a single word about the war economy and the billions for NATO.

The recent Council of State decision against restoring the 13th and 14th salary payments in the public sector confirms that state institutions actively serve anti-people policies. Rights do not return from courtrooms; they are won through organisation, strong unions and determined struggle.

War passes through Souda, Alexandroupoli and Larissa, through ports and airports being turned into hubs and potential targets. Ships and their crews are made expendable for shipowners' lucrative freight rates, while the people are told to get used to a "culture of coffins". Dozens of seafarers have been killed in the Black Sea and the Middle East; thousands of refugees have been uprooted or drowned at sea.

We are changing the agenda! We measure what the people are entitled to today against the possibilities offered by science, technology and production. We demand higher wages and pensions, collective bargaining agreements, stable jobs, a seven-hour day, a five-day week and a 35-hour working week, and the repeal of all anti-worker laws. The restoration of the 13th and 14th salary payments in the public sector and the former public utilities and enterprises, and of the 13th and 14th pension payments. A €12,000 tax-free income allowance, increased for each child; the abolition of VAT on basic consumer goods; and effective measures against the high cost of living.

We demand exclusively public and free health and education, with all the necessary staff and modern infrastructure. Protection of ordinary people's homes from foreclosure auctions, and measures for affordable, good-quality housing. Health and safety measures

in every workplace, stronger inspection mechanisms, and comprehensive flood, fire and earthquake protection. Greece out of the wars of NATO, the US and the EU.

These demands will not be met by waiting for saviours or a change of government. For the people to win, capital must lose. New Democracy, PASOK, SYRIZA, the Velopoulos party, the Tsipras party and all their assorted appendages share common ground: the EU, NATO, and business groups' competitiveness and profitability. Their grandstanding in opposition cannot hide the fact that disagreements end wherever capital's interests and commitments to imperialist alliances are at stake.

Experience has shown that changing the manager of poverty and misery leaves the root of the problems untouched. The "social partnership" promoted by the union bosses in GSEE and ADEDY, who come from PASOK, New Democracy, SYRIZA and Tsipras's party, cannot reconcile two irreconcilable worlds. Capital and the working class have no common interest.

There is another path! It offers hope, and it can be seen in organised struggle. On 4 April, at PAME's Nationwide Conference in Kaisariani, more than 720 trade union organisations and over 2,000 trade unionists gave strength to this prospect. The strikes on 24 June by construction workers, workers in catering and tourism, food and beverages, and the public sector; the nationwide retail workers' strike on 19 July; the struggles at Praktiker, Notos, Famar, efood, Wolt, LARCO and TEXAN; the struggles of metalworkers, shipwrights and seafarers; farmers' mobilisations; and the great rallies over Tempi all show the way forward.

The results at the congresses of ADEDY, the Athens and Evia labour centres, OLME and DOE, and major unions across the country confirm the strength of work from below, with a line of confrontation with capital and the overthrow of anti-people policies.

This struggle is internationalist. PAME's delegations to the occupied West Bank and Cuba; the dozens of rallies and union initiatives standing alongside the peoples of Palestine, Cuba, Iran, Lebanon and Venezuela. The international dockworkers' strike on 6 February 2026 in 20 ports across seven countries, and the coordination of unions that now reaches more than 40 ports, show that workers can put obstacles in the way of the war machine. They are already preparing a new International Day of Strike and Militant Action on 30 October.

We are fighting to build a broad movement of workers and the people, with common goals of struggle, to overturn the policy of profits and war. For an alliance of the working class with the self-employed, poor farmers, young people and women from ordinary families.

The mobilisations of small farmers joined the struggles and demands of the working class and the people against the anti-people policies of the government, the EU and capital. They were the largest in the past 30 years, unprecedented in their turnout, duration, unity and rallying around the Nationwide Committee of Roadblocks.

With active unions, organisation in every workplace, coordination of struggle and solidarity that leaves no one alone in the face of dismissal, foreclosure auctions or repression. For the movement's counteroffensive and for overturning these policies. A strong people is an organised people.

From the Thessaloniki International Fair, we send a clear message of struggle. We refuse to accept that our lives are a "cost" and endless sacrifices are "realism". Our banner is class struggle and internationalist solidarity among peoples. We make the platform of struggle the concern of every union and every worker.

We call on union leaderships to hold broad discussions through general assemblies and other mass participation processes, and to draw up action plans to organise the struggle of every federation, every labour centre and every union. We call on workers, the unemployed, pensioners, young men and women, and all the people from across Greece to come to YMCA Square tomorrow at 5.30 p.m.

See photos and video at the following links.



Photos

<https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjD3ZkC>



Video

<https://youtu.be/LnWSQFycYNE>



## Departures

**From every corner of the country heading for the great nationwide rally of the working people**



**Thousands of workers set off for Thessaloniki with their unions, bringing the demands of their sectors and workplaces to the rally at the Thessaloniki International Fair.**

From dawn on Saturday 5 September, departures for Thessaloniki set the tone for the nationwide mobilisation. Working people, pensioners and young people set out for the great gathering of struggle, demanding money for the people's needs, not for the imperialists' profits and wars.

In Attica, dozens of coaches departed from four locations: the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA), the Peace and Friendship Stadium, Metaxourgeio and Pedion tou Areos. Workers from construction, telecommunications, local government, energy and pharmaceuticals gathered at OAKA. The Piraeus contingent set off from the Peace and Friendship Stadium, including dockworkers, seafarers and workers in metalworking and ship repair.

Among those gathering in Metaxourgeio were tourism and catering workers, financial and accounting services workers, and the Federation of Greek Women (OGE). At Pedion tou Areos, retail and transport workers met university employees and student unions. Banners, flags and megaphones were prepared before boarding, in an atmosphere of enthusiasm.

At the same time, delegations set out from many parts of the country. In Patras, the labour centre's T-shirts stood out with the slogan: "We are making our own announcement - Money for wages, health and education." Workers from many sectors departed from Kalamata, while in Corfu the labour centre had called a strike to make participation easier.

Trade unions and pensioners' organisations from Lefkada and Preveza were also on the road. From Ioannina, student unions made a strong showing alongside workers' unions. Delegations from Central Greece and Evia, from industrial areas and towns, headed for the same destination.

Buses carrying workers and self-employed people departed from all four prefectures of Thessaly. Small farmers and their families set off for the mobilisation organised by the Nationwide Committee of Roadblocks at the White Tower.

**This coming together of workers from different sectors and regions shows the potential**

**to strengthen the movement of workers and the people.** Organisation through the unions can sustain this momentum, carrying the strength captured in the images of the tremendous rally into every workplace.



# A magnificent rally in Thessaloniki with an unprecedented turnout

Tens of thousands of workers, small farmers and self-employed people, young men and women, students and pensioners from every corner of the country flooded the streets of Thessaloniki, sending a message of struggle, hope and counteroffensive.

We salute the federations, labour centres, trade unions and mass organisations from across Greece that devoted all their strength to the success of the rally.

The scenes were unprecedented: tens of thousands of demonstrators with their unions' flags, banners and slogans, outside the Thessaloniki International Fair, making their own announcement and bringing the people's real needs to the fore!

Today's great nationwide mobilisation of workers and the people is a valuable foundation for the major struggles ahead. It is a resounding answer to the mood of waiting cultivated by the New Democracy government and the parties of the accommodating opposition.

The people have nothing to expect from old or new "saviours", changes of government or the false expectations that accompany them. All of them agree on the policy of exploitation, blood-stained surpluses and war budgets that bleed the people dry.

There is no room for waiting. We will not stop for a single hour!

We are already preparing for the next major battles, for an escalation of strikes and struggle on all the major fronts: against the high cost of living, involvement in war, stagnant wages, 13-hour working days, and the commodification of health and education.

**For the people to win, capital must lose!**

For higher wages and pensions, collective bargaining agreements, and the restoration of the 13th and 14th salary and pension payments. For a €12,000 tax-free income allowance and the abolition of VAT on basic necessities. For exclusively public and free





health and education. For effective workplace health and safety measures, so that we do not mourn any more colleagues. Not one euro for imperialist wars!

The river of people that flooded Thessaloniki shows the way: building a broad, militant movement of workers and the people, with common goals of struggle, in confrontation with capital, the state, the government, the US, NATO and the EU.

We are not waiting for saviours; we are taking our lives and our future into our own hands! With organisation in every workplace, strong unions, and an alliance of workers, farmers and the self-employed.

We are making today's magnificent mobilisation the starting point for new, even larger and more determined struggles to overturn anti-people policies.

**Our only hope is the organised people!**

**No sacrifice for their wars and profits!**







See photos and video at the following links.

Photos

<https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjD4aMC>

Video

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=764\\_ZvWaL3M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=764_ZvWaL3M)

## Keynote speech by Giannis Tasioulas at the nationwide rally at the Thessaloniki International Fair

### President of the Federation of Construction Workers



This nationwide gathering is awe-inspiring. It is enormous.

Today, the people are speaking.

Let all those who, at this time every year at the Thessaloniki International Fair, repeat the same empty announcements, promises and false expectations fall silent.

Now, the various political charlatans - the politicians of empty promises - have their eyes on the elections and are doing everything they can to channel the great

popular discontent into paths that leave the system of profit and exploitation unharmed.

Their concern is to keep the people under their control so that the profits of the few can be sustained.

Silence, you speechmakers! Now the people are speaking. The thousands of workers who are here today. The farmers in struggle, the young people, the pensioners, the women. All united as one fist against them and against the system of exploitation that exposes our lives to grave dangers and dead ends.

The message we are sending is clear.

Struggle to the very end.

No sacrifice for their war and profits.

Money for wages, education and health. The needs of the many, of working people, must come first, not the profits of the few.

We are showing a "red card" to past and present governments, political forces and parties whose hands are dirty with hundreds of anti-worker laws, tax robbery, the draining of people's incomes, and the stripping away of rights and gains in order to serve the interests of the few.

For us to win, capital and the bourgeois state must pay.

They must lose, suffering daily defeats at the hands of the struggles of the workers' and people's movement. A nationwide river of workers must rise against them, constantly growing stronger in major workplaces, factories, construction sites and large production facilities. A movement that escalates its struggle and wins what is rightfully its own, in confrontation with the system of exploitation and for its overthrow.

A movement that makes them lose sleep!

We have enormous experience that must not go unused. We must make decisions that improve our lives.

Every year, the Thessaloniki International Fair becomes a catwalk for governments, the parties of the system, the EU and NATO, all trying to pass off meat as fish: to convince us that the needs of the many can be reconciled with the interests of the few. They want working people to pay the price for their development.

We have heard everything from this platform. With drum rolls and great fanfare.

“Thessaloniki Programmes” that would free the people from the memoranda and anti-worker laws; grand economic plans for supposedly “growth for everyone”; tax relief for workers and small and medium-sized businesses; the restoration of collective bargaining agreements and the correction of distortions in anti-social-insurance laws. A return to normality after the crisis.

All those “wonderful” things whose results and consequences we have seen in practice.

For us, the balance is always negative, always short of our needs. For capital and its businesses, everything is fine: more privileges, more profits.

The government’s narrative of a “Road Map 2030” and the “productive reconstruction” preached by PASOK, with the Tsipras party close behind, revolve around the same strategic axis.

Development centred on the profits of the few, which workers are expected to finance through



minimal wages, fewer rights, and an even greater burden of direct and indirect taxation.

The economy of capitalist development can afford billions for NATO’s armaments and war plans, and tax exemptions and privileges for the few, but when it comes to the lives of the many, the coffers are empty.

On wages, which are stuck at 2012 levels, they kick the issue into the long grass and promise €950 by the elections. That is a drop in the ocean. Wages evaporate before they even reach workers’ pockets.

They are not only diverting attention; they are also taking measures to secure the cheap labour employers demand for the years ahead.

That is precisely what the disgraceful Social Agreement on collective bargaining agreements by the new troika - the government, SEV and GSEE - is about.

The GSEE majority - PASKE, DAKE, SYRIZA and Tsipras, their representatives in the trade union movement - has taken on the role of keeping wages at the bare minimum.

Their development is hostile to the lives of working-class and ordinary families. We know that however many similar “road maps” Mitsotakis announces, our lives will still come up against anti-worker laws, 13-hour working days and Sunday working. We will continue to count those killed and maimed in the workplace - our everyday “Tempi” disasters.

On all this, not a word from those in government or the other forces of capital.

On the dangers of our country's involvement in imperialist wars, not a word from the whole clique of NATO, the EU and capital.

We do not share their interests or their needs.

Standing against them all is our world: the world of work and struggle.

The great force of workers and the people that will make its mark so that we, the many - working people who earn our daily bread - can live as we truly deserve and as the possibilities of our times allow.

Through our struggle, we will sweep them away. We will overthrow the rottenness of their system.

Hope lies in the struggle for a world without exploitation, poverty, wars or forced displacement.

We will make sure that it becomes a reality!

Today there is enormous potential for us, the workers, to emerge victorious in the war against capital, its governments, and the forces that support it in politics and the trade union movement.

Today's great nationwide mobilisation of workers and the people is a foundation for the major struggles ahead.

We will not stop for a single hour.

We are already preparing for the next major battles. For the major fronts of struggle.

On 30 October, a day of militant mobilisation and strike action in 45 ports across the Mediterranean and Europe, we will stand with dockworkers and all port workers against wars, the genocide of the Palestinian people, military attacks and plans, and for higher wages and better working conditions.

We are strengthening struggles in every sector for collective bargaining agreements and workplace health and safety measures. We are using every opportunity and every form of intervention, with mobilisations, outreach in every workplace and the organisation of strikes in sectors and major companies, aiming to secure concrete results and gains.

We will not stop.

We are working to escalate the struggles and build a broad movement of workers and the people with common goals of struggle, to overturn the policy of profits and war. For an alliance of the working class with the self-employed, poor farmers, young people and women from ordinary families.

We are preparing to escalate militant action and strikes nationwide.

We call on union leaderships to hold broad discussions through general assemblies and other mass participation processes, and to draw up action plans to organise the struggle of every federation, every labour centre and every union.

The river cannot flow backwards. Hope is here. We carry on!

Video

<https://youtu.be/bdE7vrPAS0I>

## Address by Rizos Maroudas

### On behalf of the Nationwide Committee of Roadblocks at the Thessaloniki International Fair rally



We are here because they are dismantling Greek agriculture and livestock farming for the profits of the few," Rizos Maroudas stressed, speaking on behalf of the Nationwide Committee of Roadblocks at the rally at the Thessaloniki International Fair.

We are here, he said, because Greek livestock farming has been devastated and the government's only response is to deploy the army on Lesbos instead of solving the foot-and-mouth disease problem. The

necessary vaccinations have not been carried out for the sake of five industrialists who export feta cheese, so that they do not lose the tens of millions of euros they earn, he noted.

We are here because more than 1,000 case files have been brought against farmers across Greece over the roadblocks, "as if we were criminals", he stressed, adding: "We are being called to account because our crime was to fight for our survival, for our families, for agricultural production to continue in Greece, so that we can produce affordable, quality food and it can reach you at affordable prices too."

We are here, R. Maroudas continued, "because once again this year we cannot submit our Integrated Administration and Control System (OSDE) declarations and we will not receive any money. We are here because the Common Agricultural Policy, along with the policies of successive governments, has devastated our villages, devastated our crops and ruined and driven tens of thousands of farming and livestock-rearing families off the land. In essence, we are here because their system is driving us out of production and out of life, without rights and without hope.

"But we call on our fellow farmers to turn the disappointment they want to sow, the fear and fatalism they want to cultivate, into a decision to struggle. Into a decision to fight collectively. Our experience has shown that no one gave us anything we won, however small. We won it through our unity, through major mass struggles, with the people taking part collectively and standing beside us in support."

R. Maroudas stressed: "We produce all the wealth that a handful of people appropriate at our expense. Everything around us is our creation - that of the working class, the farmers, the self-employed and the scientists. Everything you see, everywhere, is our creation." He added: "That is where our struggle must be directed. Through these mobilisations, through our unity and a platform of struggle, so that we become the true masters, the owners of this enormous wealth that we ourselves produce.

"We, the organised farmers' movement, who did not bow our heads, who resisted the pats on the back and refused to dip our hands into the honey pot; all of us who stand at the roadblocks and have written their history, make one promise and one promise only: We will not bow our heads. We will be at the roadblocks again. We will be in the struggle again, just as we are today. Together, we will make things difficult for them again. We will make them lose sleep until our struggle is vindicated and until we live the life that is ours in 2026, with the possibilities offered by science, technology and our own work. We are many, we are right, and we will win.

Video

<https://youtu.be/fl7sfDwHJT4>

# Address by Nikos Kouvaras

## Commando



Commando Nikos Kouvaras began his speech as the slogan “Soldiers are children of the people; they have no business beyond our borders” rang out loudly. At the start of his address, he expressed his condolences to the families and loved ones of the two pilots killed in the Phantom crash at Tanagra.

He also stressed: “Today, we are putting our own needs first. That is the direction and the substance of the demands of the people

who are here today: workers, students, the self-employed, wage earners, farmers and young people.

“These are the people whose interests and livelihoods I, as a soldier and commando in the Special Forces, gave my word of honour, with a clear conscience, alongside the oaths of hundreds of commandos, to defend ‘to the last drop of our blood!’

“Livelihoods that are being plundered, and interests that stand in mortal opposition to the profits and interests of a handful of parasites: big businesspeople, major industrialists and shipowners, whose position every government works to secure, including, of course, the present one.

“We and our families know this well. Even before entering the barracks, we pay unbearable sums for clothing and other necessities. Inside the barracks, we face serious financial difficulties. Our parents send us money to get by, because we even pay for the water we drink! We spend money at our units’ canteens to meet our needs. We serve far from home and struggle to take leave because we think two or three times about the cost of tickets to travel and see our loved ones!

“It is therefore a duty, an obligation and an honour for those in uniform from our country’s working class, soldiers and professional personnel alike, to fulfil our oath and stand beside you today with common demands.

“After all, is it in the people’s interests for members of the Greek Army to risk their lives on foreign soil for interests alien to their own, as the operators of the Patriot battery in Saudi Arabia are doing?

“Is it in the Greek people’s interests for €7 billion to be allocated to NATO’s needs instead of free education and health and the real needs of those serving in the armed forces? We conscripts are burdened with debt by our service to our country, while permanent personnel are often forced to take a second job because they cannot make ends meet on military salaries and pensions.

“Of course not! The Greek Army has no business taking part in missions beyond our borders! Bring back every mission deployed abroad now! No participation or involvement in war! NATO bases must get out of our country, and NATO headquarters must get out of Thessaloniki!

“We reject the culture of coffins they want to impose on us! We serve to protect our country, our families, workers and our people. We are here to protect our people’s wealth! We have no place in other plans. Stop all shipments of military equipment to Ukraine now! End all cooperation with the murderous state of Israel!

“We extend our hand to the peoples who are victims of imperialist war, to the heroic people of Palestine. To all peoples living through the horrors of war.

“This is the only honourable position for every young person serving in the armed forces! This is



the stance that the state and the government are trying to attack, with punishments and penalties against fellow soldiers who stand beside our people, beside workers' unions demanding their rights, beside farmers fighting for survival and to make ends meet, and beside all our people demanding disengagement from war!

"From here today, I want to express my solidarity and support for every soldier punished for his proud and courageous stance, even for reading a newspaper in his barracks!

"Some will ask: who are we to speak about the Greek Army and soldiers' needs? One of us is standing at the podium today, and others are here in the crowd - look at them. But there are hundreds of letters of protest from those serving, and thousands of soldiers and officers who listen carefully to our demands and see that this government's policies, too, are leading workers and the Greek people towards disaster. So today we bring you this message from all of them: Fight hard and without wavering!

"Money for health and education! No sacrifice for profits and wars!

"We soldiers are children of the people; we have no business beyond our borders!"

Video

<https://youtu.be/WynrF-Ro4Yw>

## **Address by Grigoris Papadopoulos**

### **Vice President of the Panhellenic Federation of Workers in Bottled Beverages POEEP**



Grigoris Papadopoulos, vice president of the Panhellenic Federation of Bottled Beverage Workers (POEEP) and president the Union of Salespeople - Drivers, and Assistants of the Bottled Beverage Industry Northern Greece.

“I extend a warm, class-conscious, and militant greeting to you on behalf of the workers in the bottled beverage and processed food industries,” he noted, adding:

From Thessaloniki, “we send a message of resistance and struggle to the entire working class and all the popular strata of our country. Now is the time for organization and struggle. The time for a workers’ counteroffensive through class-based unions. To meet the contemporary needs of working-class families. Against high prices, low wages, poverty, insecurity, and the overall deterioration of our lives.

We must not harbor any illusions. During a protracted election campaign, no one will skimp on supposedly pro-worker announcements and pro-people measures. Commitments and promises cost nothing. They are aimed at winning the popular vote—so they can continue along the same path. The government and employers are hatching new plans at our expense.”

He emphasized that only a mass, class-based workers’ and people’s movement can fight “for measures to provide relief to working-class families and pave the way for overturning the anti-worker and anti-people policies of the government and employers,” and stressed that “through unity, organization, and struggle, with solidarity as our weapon in all workplaces and across all sectors, we can thwart their plans.”

Video

<https://youtu.be/ikoS4TWMHaM>

## **Address by Eleni Vasara**

### **Secretary of the Association of Relatives of the Tempi Victims**



We, the Association of Relatives of the Victims of the Tempi Crime, join our voices with the thousands of workers and their unions, student unions, all our people's mass organisations, and the thousands who answered the call and are taking part in today's magnificent nationwide rally.

Once again, we declare that we will not allow human lives to be lost because, over the years, the state and successive governments have tried to convince us that the economy cannot

afford even basic railway safety measures.

Human lives cannot be lost while they try to convince us that the economy cannot afford sufficient, properly trained staff or modern, safe trains. At the same time, they impose the liberalisation and privatisation of the most profitable parts of railway operations and, despite the tragic shortcomings they know first-hand, they sign off on and advertise higher speeds and intensified operations on a railway that is a ticking time bomb, ready to explode at any moment.

This is the implementation of EU policy, which treats the protection of human life as an ineligible cost in order to support the liberalisation of rail transport. It serves the goal of creating a single market in railway activities, in which EU monopoly groups can invest and profit without hindrance, through a comprehensive legal framework of directives built up over decades. It is precisely this policy and this legal framework - not some deviation from European standards, as is misleadingly claimed - that all successive governments in our country have implemented. They led to the fragmentation of the railway network and the privatisation of its profitable part, within a business model driven by profit. The result was the absence of the necessary automated safety systems and the stripping of the railway of the staff it needed.

To sustain profits, they continue to allow the railway network to operate despite safety deficiencies. And as if that were not enough, certifications are issued under the familiar directives and guidelines so that these operations can continue. These are the laws that the judiciary also upholds and applies.

Our children, our loved ones, were sacrificed on the blood-stained tracks of profit. On top of that, we faced the most inhuman face of this system: a hostile state. A vast effort to cover up the responsibility of the chief culprits in this crime: the EU, the state and the governments.

We join our voices against the new sacrifices being prepared on the altar of profit - on the railway, in workplaces, in health and education, everywhere.

We join our voices with all those who stood beside us from the very first moment. They became supporters of our struggle, chanting: "This crime will not be covered up; we will become the voice of all the dead." Through their presence and participation, they have obstructed and continue to obstruct the huge cover-up effort that unfolded from the very moment the crime occurred. They point to the real culprit: the criminal policy of profit, which breeds and covers up crimes. They make clear, and we make clear, that there is one choice: Their profits or our lives!

And they will continue to support us now that the main trial resumes on 7 September!

We will fight to expose in full the responsibility accumulated over the years that led to the crime, presenting detailed evidence of the state into which the railway network had fallen.

For us, the responsibilities and causes that led to Tempi are specific, and they are still here.



We therefore target the cause of these events, because true justice means both punishing all those responsible for the tragic crime at Tempi and eliminating the causes that could lead to another Tempi, so that no other parents have to mourn their children.

It is our duty to ensure there are no more Tempi disasters!

Video

<https://youtu.be/ievLRA1UiMc>

# **Joint declaration of the Third International Meeting of Dockworkers' Unions**

## **Dockworkers will not become a link in the chain of their wars**

### **We dockworkers will not become a link in the chain of their wars!**

We, the dockworkers' unions from more than 35 ports across Europe and the Mediterranean, who met in Istanbul at the Third International Meeting of Dockworkers' Unions, issue a joint call to struggle to our fellow workers in every port and every country.

Our meeting takes place at a time when developments dramatically confirm what we have already declared: ports, sea routes, railways, warehouses, logistics and the entire transport chain are increasingly being openly transformed into infrastructure for war.

Governments, the US, NATO, the EU and the monopolies want to make workers complicit in transporting weapons and military equipment intended for the slaughter of peoples.

We will not oblige them!

We are not starting from scratch. We already have experience, joint decisions, valuable achievements to build on, and bonds forged in struggle.

The strike and international day of action we organised on 6 February, in seven countries and 20 ports, marked a historic milestone. Dockworkers sent a powerful message that they do not work for the imperialists' wars.

They proved that coordination is more than a slogan. It can become action. It can spread from Piraeus to Genoa, Marseille, Tangier, Mersin, Bilbao, Pasaia and Trieste - to every port where workers raise their heads.

**Developments demand that we continue what we have begun with even greater determination.**

The imperialist war in the Middle East is spreading. The genocide of the Palestinian people by the murderous state of Israel continues with the support of the US, NATO and the EU. The US-Israeli attack on Iran, the outbreak of fighting in the Strait of Hormuz, attacks on ships, blockades and the militarisation of sea passages all show that peoples and workers are being pushed ever deeper into the abyss of war.

Our own ports are on the front line of this conflict. They want our hands to load weapons and serve their armies. They want infrastructure built with workers' sweat to become bases for interventions, blockades, genocides and attacks against peoples.

Governments speak of "security", "stability" and "freedom of navigation". But the truth is different. Behind these words lie rivalries over control of energy routes, trade routes, ports, raw materials and markets.

Behind them lies the conflict between powerful capitalist states over who will dominate the imperialist system. This has nothing to do with the interests or security of the peoples.

Faced with this reality, workers cannot place their trust in those trade union forces that accept the aims of the "war economy", that present involvement in wars as "development", "jobs" or the "national interest", that call on workers to make sacrifices for profits and wars, and to line up behind the needs of governments, shipowners, monopolies and imperialist alliances.

At the very moment when billions are being spent on armaments, port workers face intensified work, exhausting hours, flexible employment arrangements, subcontracting, low wages and a lack of health and safety measures. They pay the consequences of war, which brings inflation and

rising prices for food, fuel and basic necessities.

They sacrifice our lives for their profits in peacetime, and now they want to sacrifice them in war too. The cost of their wars is always loaded onto the same shoulders: peoples, workers, seafarers, dockworkers and refugees.

### **We demand**

**1. An immediate end to the genocide of the Palestinian people and the opening of a safe corridor for humanitarian aid.** An end to settlement expansion, occupation and apartheid imposed on the Palestinian people, and recognition of an independent Palestinian state, recognised by the international community, within the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

**2. An end to the war in the Middle East.** No support, no facilitation and no participation in the US-Israeli war against Iran or Lebanon, or in any other imperialist intervention. Military fleets and bases out of the region. We express our full solidarity with the peoples of Cuba, Venezuela and Sudan, who are threatened by US imperialism, and call for the defence of peoples' sovereignty, their resources and territorial integrity, peace with justice, and the right to resistance and self-determination.

**3. Ports must not be used to transport weapons, ammunition, military equipment or troops.** We call on unions to heighten vigilance, inform workers, expose war cargoes and organise mass collective resistance through our struggle and every available means to which we are entitled.

**4. An end to the militarisation of ports and critical infrastructure.** Ports belong to the peoples and the workers. They are not NATO, US or EU bases, nor tools of shipowners and monopoly groups.

**5. No to the war economy and armaments.** Money must go to wages, collective bargaining agreements, health, education, social needs, and the protection of life and safety at work.

**6. Workplace health and safety measures.** Not one worker dead for profits. An end to work intensification, subcontracting, dangerous conditions and arbitrary employer practices.

**7. Collective bargaining agreements with real wage increases, stable jobs with rights, a retirement policy that provides better pensions, and shorter working hours.** Technological developments, mechanisation, automation, the use of artificial intelligence and the development of ports must serve workers' needs, not lead to intensified work or the elimination of their jobs.

To strengthen the international coordination of dockworkers' unions, we jointly commit to exchanging information between unions for common action, simultaneous mobilisations and strike initiatives; to strengthening the blocking of war cargoes and weapons; and to solidarity with every union under attack by governments, employers and the machinery of repression.

At this meeting, by signing this declaration, the participating unions agreed to call a second international day of dockworkers' struggle in October 2026.

From Istanbul, we send this message:

- **We dockworkers will not be sacrificed for their profits and wars.**
- We do not load death.
- We do not transport bullets, bombs and missiles to kill children.
- We refuse to let our ports be turned into military bases.
- **Workers will not pay for the war economy, the high cost of living, armaments or monopoly profits.**

Our strength lies in organisation. It lies in our unions, our general assemblies, our collective

decisions and solidarity between workers from different countries.

We port workers know very well that nothing moves without us. Without our hands, containers stand still, ships are not loaded and war machines are blocked.

We call on all dockworkers' unions to discuss this declaration, strengthen our joint steps, organise common actions and deepen the bonds of solidarity between ports.

**The historic mobilisation of 6 February showed the way. The next one will take us a step further!**

**Dockworkers do not work for war! Ports for the peoples and peace - not bases for the imperialists!**

*Istanbul, 18 and 19 May 2026*

**ENEDEP** - Greece, **LAB** - Basque Country, **Liman-İş** - Türkiye, **ODT** - Morocco, **USB** - Italy.



## **GSEE protests as a lackey of capital and the government**

At the Thessaloniki International Fair, the dismal majority in the GSEE leadership - the officials of New Democracy, PASOK, SYRIZA and the Tsipras party - costed workers' needs according to what the profits of shipowners, bankers and industrialists could bear. First, secure returns for business groups; then consider whether anything is left for those who produce the wealth. Such "generosity" in its demands from the social partner of the government and the industrialists.

On war, the war economy and war budgets, and on the employer crimes that have become a daily occurrence, its declaration for the Fair maintained a remarkable silence. Apparently, the billions for war plans do not trouble "social dialogue". It is demands for wages and rights that require moderation, prudence and costing.

This is what they mean by "defending" workers: measuring their needs with the employers' ruler and presenting compromise as responsibility. Promising a better share, after first accepting that those who profit from our work and sweat will do the calculations.

**But workers need unions that organise struggle in confrontation with capital, the government, NATO and the EU. Business groups already have the government and the parties of capital to explain what their profits "cannot afford". We do not need their lackeys in the labour movement.**

# Platform of Demands and Struggle for 2026-2027

## 1. Stable jobs with rights and a seven hour day five day week and 35 hour working week

### Substantial wage increases and the signing of collective bargaining agreements.

- Repeal all anti-worker laws and restrictions on collective bargaining agreements and wages, the imposition of the 13-hour day and six-day working week, and the flexibilisation and averaging of working time. Abolish the shameful “social agreement” between SEV, GSEE and the government as well.
- Permanent, stable employment for all, with a seven-hour day, a 35-hour working week and a five-day week, and a six-hour day, a five-day week and a 30-hour working week for heavy and hazardous occupations. Working hours must be fixed by collective bargaining agreements.
- Restore collective bargaining for the National General Collective Labour Agreement as the starting point for increasing the minimum wage.
- Raise the nominal minimum wage to €1,100. Introduce a clause adjusting wages in line with inflation.
- Restore gains such as the stolen three-year seniority increments for 2012-2023, the principle of the more favourable collective agreement, the continued effect of agreements after expiry, and overtime pay.
- Restore the 13th and 14th salary payments in the public sector and former public utilities and enterprises.
- Specifically in the public sector, a 20% increase, the granting of all pay-scale increments, and the abolition of the unacceptable differentiation in salary progression by educational category and of the unemployment contribution levy.
- No abolition of permanent tenure for public employees. Give permanent status to the thousands of contract workers kept in continuous insecurity. Abolish the unacceptable “one hire for each departure” rule.
- Fixed daily working time is a non-negotiable condition and a fundamental pillar of employment relations. Working-time arrangements involving compensation at some future point must be prohibited.
- Restore and legally safeguard Sunday as a day off. Repeal all laws that have opened the door to deregulation and allow businesses to open on Sundays.
- No permanent entrenchment of teleworking; collective rights for workers under this regime. Respect working hours and make employers responsible for ensuring disconnection.
- Make all contract workers permanent, prioritising health, welfare, education, civil protection and local government.
- Repeal the anti-worker laws that liberalise collective redundancies.
- Abolish the unacceptable distinction between termination of employment with and without notice.
- Restore the right to at least ten consecutive days of summer leave.
- Effective protection for working women and maternity through collective bargaining agreements.

## **2. Higher pensions and exclusively public universal social insurance**

### **No increases in retirement age.**

- Repeal all laws undermining social insurance.
- Substantial increases in all pensions above the rate of inflation.
- Incorporate the “personal difference” into pensions and abolish the solidarity contribution.
- Restore the 13th and 14th pension payments.
- Immediately award all pending pensions and lump-sum payments.
- Set the minimum pension at 80% of wages.
- Full state guarantee of all pensions.
- Retirement ages for wage earners, farmers and the self-employed must not exceed 60 for men and 55 for women, or 55 and 50 respectively for workers in heavy and hazardous occupations.

## **3 .Fight the high cost of living and defend the incomes of workers and the people**

### **Make big capital pay. No submission to the strategy of fiscal restrictions, “costed expenditure” and blood-stained surpluses.**

- Substantial reductions and caps on wholesale and retail prices, including the abolition of VAT on widely consumed goods such as bread, food, milk, baby products, personal hygiene products and others.
- Substantial reductions and caps on wholesale and retail energy and fuel prices, including the abolition of all indirect taxes and VAT. Abolish the energy exchange and the emissions trading system. Use and upgrade hydroelectric and lignite-fired power stations, in opposition to EU commitments on green growth.
- No electricity disconnections for working-class and ordinary households or self-employed people who cannot meet excessive bills. Write off part of their debts.
- Reconnect electricity with the sole condition of an agreement to settle debts on favourable terms, with no down payment, no interest on interest, and many small instalments for repayment of bills.
- No disconnection of electricity or natural gas to schools, care, health and welfare facilities, sports facilities or other social infrastructure.
- Abolish the ENFIA property tax for working-class and ordinary households.
- A €12,000 tax-free income allowance, increased by €3,000 for each child. Abolish tax exemptions and increase tax rates for big capital.
- Abolish presumptive income taxation and the business levy for the self-employed.
- Restore the tax-free income allowance for the self-employed, who are currently taxed from the first euro.
- Abolish bank charges on digital transactions and deposit accounts held by working-class and ordinary households.
- Establish guaranteed prices for agricultural and livestock products that cover production costs and ensure a livelihood for small farmers. Reduce production costs through tax-free diesel and price caps on agricultural electricity, fertilisers, pesticides, animal feed and other inputs.

- Fully compensate lost agricultural income resulting from market fluctuations and production losses caused by climatic conditions, such as failure to bear fruit.
- Return to farmers the money stolen through OPEKEPE, which approaches €1 billion over the past seven years. Subsidies must be paid exclusively for actual production and actual livestock. End the payment of support without productive activity.
- Rent subsidies for working-class and ordinary households, students and small businesses; broaden eligibility criteria and increase the subsidy.
- Substantially reduce municipal charges for working-class and ordinary families and the self-employed. Abolish them for unemployed people, pensioners, wage earners and the self-employed with incomes of up to €12,000.
- Emergency grants to municipalities for the smooth operation of schools, sports facilities and other social infrastructure, such as swimming pools and childcare centres.
- Restore free urban transport services for workers at the beginning and end of shifts.
- Cut public transport fares by 50% on buses, trolleybuses, trams, the Metro, ISAP, suburban rail and OSE services.
- Free travel for school pupils, university students, unemployed people, people with disabilities and pensioners.
- Exclusively public mass transport, including urban transport and railways, with no business activity. Recruit staff and provide more frequent, safe services.

#### **4.Immediate measures for unemployed people and for DYPA formerly OAED**

- Immediate coverage and benefits for all unemployed people for the full duration of unemployment. Abolish the prepaid card.
- Increase unemployment benefit to 80% of the minimum wage demanded by the workers' trade union movement.
- End the disgraceful system of penalties for unemployed people.
- Repeal the law allowing DYPA to run programmes for workers and unemployed people over 67. Ensure uninterrupted employment for workers in the 55-67 programme, with state funding, until they retire.
- Expand all benefit programmes without the axe of income criteria hanging over them. Social tourism for all workers and pensioners every year.

#### **5.Affordable modern housing for the people and students and protection of the primary residence**

- Restore the work of the Workers' Housing Organisation (OEK) and the Workers' Welfare Organisation, with all their previous responsibilities, and immediately launch and expand the housing construction programme.
- Use the former OEK's reserves and extensive real estate assets to meet workers' needs, rather than feeding them into the jaws of the few.
- State provision of affordable, modern housing for large families. State rent subsidies covering 100% of rent for young couples.
- Immediately build new student residences and repair and renovate all old ones, entirely at state expense. Use university property and unused buildings owned by municipalities, regions, the Church and others to create new residences. A monthly student housing allowance equal to the rent.
- Upgrade existing student residences to ensure safe, free accommodation for all residents.

- Full legal protection of ordinary households' primary residences and a ban on foreclosure auctions of primary residences.
- End all forms of enforcement and foreclosure auctions by banks against debtors from ordinary families for amounts owed to banks and the tax authorities.
- Write off 50% of ordinary households' debts to banks, together with interest, compound interest and the capitalisation of all forms of interest on their debts.

#### **6.Struggle against privatisation and the handing over of public wealth to business groups**

- No commodification or further privatisation of water. Water is a natural and social good and must be provided to the people at high quality and low cost.
- Stop all plans promoting carcinogenic waste incineration. Ensure sufficient state funding for waste management through taxation of capital and the abolition of all levies on the people. Waste treatment and final disposal projects must be carried out by a state body operating to meet all the people's needs, not capitalist profit, with an emphasis on recycling and separation at source. Abolish all forms of privatisation and business activity in waste management.

#### **7.The workers and people's movement must safeguard its struggles and the right to strike**

It must fight for the following.

- Immediately enact legislation ending all criminal prosecutions against small farmers who took part in agricultural roadblocks, fighting for their very survival.
- Immediately stop all disciplinary proceedings against teachers and all public employees for their trade union activity and resistance to reactionary evaluation.
- Render inoperative the laws passed by New Democracy, SYRIZA and PASOK that restrict the right to strike. Repeal the new, unacceptable Disciplinary Code for Public Employees. The government and employers have no place in trade unions.
- Restore the general assembly as the sole body of workers empowered to decide on a strike in an enterprise, under the conditions that applied before SYRIZA's 2018 law.
- Abolish "guaranteed service provision personnel" and the corresponding strike-breaking provision.
- Restore the ability of sectoral unions, second-tier and third-tier trade union bodies to conduct their trade union activity without obstruction, including providing backing for any union's struggle in the form of action that union itself chooses.
- Protect the right to strike against strike-breaking and ban lockouts.
- Abolish GEMISOE, the General Register of Employee Trade Union Organisations. Only unions' statutes and their own members, through collective and democratic processes, must determine workers' trade union organisations' operation, principles and purposes.
- No electronic profiling; no electronic lists of names or other sensitive personal data handed to the state and employers. Under their statutes, unions alone are responsible for keeping membership registers, dues lists and lists of members who have voted.
- No remote voting. On the basis of their statutes, unions determine and defend their mass, collective and democratic procedures, including how they organise elections for their executive boards and delegates and how they take strike decisions, safeguarding secrecy and integrity through members' physical presence.
- Protect trade union activity and all founding members of a union. Safeguard unhindered

trade union activity in workplaces and guarantee trade union leave.

- No dismissal of trade unionists. Reverse every dismissal and every prosecution or other action taken against workers for trade union activity.
- Hands off union dues and finances. Strengthen DYPA so that its funding is devoted exclusively to the genuine protection of workers, unemployed people and their families.

#### **8.Workplace health and safety and the Labour Inspectorate SEPE**

- Take all necessary measures to prevent occupational accidents, with employers bearing responsibility and effective, comprehensive inspections by the competent state bodies (SEPE).
- The Labour Inspectorate must operate as an upgraded state service, not under the guise of a supposedly Independent Authority, with each government accountable to workers for its acts and omissions.
- Decisively strengthen the inspection mechanisms of the Labour Inspectorate, the Mines Inspectorate and all state inspection bodies by recruiting permanent staff to fill the major gaps across the country. Inspections must focus on the exclusive responsibility of employers and the state for preventing and addressing occupational risks.
- Defend and expand the system of Heavy and Hazardous Occupations (BAE), including sectors and occupations in both the public and private sectors that work under comparable conditions, regardless of their insurance fund or employment relationship. Immediately reinstate all sectors excluded in 2011. Contributions for BAE coverage must be paid exclusively by the state and employers.
- Fully meet workers' needs arising from occupational risks, under state responsibility and at the expense of capital.
- Fully record and investigate occupational accidents and diseases, and systematically carry out preventive examinations.
- Provide occupational medicine services in all workplaces, regardless of the number of employees.
- Ban dismissals for reasons related to workers' health, dismissals of victims of occupational accidents or diseases, and dismissals of workers assessed as fit for work with restrictions due to a health problem, whether or not it is related to exposure to occupational risks.
- Full, free hospital, medical and pharmaceutical care following an accident or occupational disease. Full pay for the entire period a worker is absent because of an accident or occupational disease, retraining and reintegration into work. Full pensions for those unable to work, or for their families in the event of death.
- Establish a state corps of safety engineers and occupational physicians, and occupational health and safety services integrated exclusively into the public health system. Abolish external protection and prevention service providers (EXYPP) and all business activity in occupational health and safety.
- Legally safeguard the regular operation of Joint Inspection Committees with union representatives, with the power to inspect additional sectors and workplaces.
- Immediately suspend all outdoor work when temperatures exceed 38°C and during severe weather. Immediately suspend all work in areas facing natural or technological disasters. Fully safeguard workers' pay and social insurance rights throughout the suspension.

#### **9.Strengthen the struggle against the policy that treats our health and human life as a cost**

**Strengthen this struggle until that policy is overturned for good. Strengthen the**

**struggle for health to be a guaranteed social good, not a commodity, and for the abolition of all business activity. For a unified, exclusively public and free health and welfare system for everyone, meeting all the people's needs for modern prevention, treatment and rehabilitation services.**

- No conversion of public hospitals into self-financing businesses operating on private-sector financial criteria. Full, sufficient and exclusively state funding for public health and welfare facilities, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, according to need.
- Decisively strengthen primary health care with permanent staff working full-time and exclusively in the public system, and all necessary medical and technological equipment.
- Mass recruitment of permanent staff of all categories and specialities, working full-time and exclusively in public hospitals, health centres and other health and welfare facilities. Make permanent all workers on temporary or flexible employment arrangements, including fixed-term and auxiliary staff, without conditions or prerequisites. No dismissal of contracted cleaning, security or catering workers. Hire them permanently with full rights.
- No closure or merger of any department, clinic, hospital or health centre.
- Fully reopen the hospitals and all public facilities that have closed. Immediately staff closed operating theatres with all the permanent personnel required.
- Abolish health insurance contributions.
- Abolish all patient payments and co-payments for afternoon outpatient clinics and surgery in public hospitals.
- Abolish all direct and indirect levies, such as the €1 prescription charge and the €1-€3 charge for each referral for laboratory or imaging tests.
- Abolish medicine "lists". End patients' contributions towards medicines, vaccines, modern treatments, technical aids, consumables and other supplies. Full reimbursement by EOPYY, funded 100% from the state budget.
- Abolish all cuts, exclusions and caps on examinations and treatments imposed by EOPYY's unified benefits regulation and the various protocols.
- Abolish the 15% co-payment for examinations in private primary-care providers contracted with EOPYY. Abolish patients' contributions to hospitalisation costs in private hospitals and treatment facilities contracted with EOPYY.
- No to the "slaughterhouses" of KEPA and OPEKA. No cuts to disability benefits or pensions.
- Fully staff the National Emergency Aid Centre (EKAV) with permanent personnel according to need. Renew its fleet, providing the necessary number of land ambulances, ambulance boats and air ambulances.
- No involvement of NGOs, contractors or private providers in health, welfare, special education and rehabilitation.

## **10. Exclusively public free and improved education for everyone**

**Abolish business activity and all class barriers and filters imposed in education.**

- Immediately reverse all class mergers. Reduce the number of pupils per class now.
- Mass permanent appointments of teaching, scientific and support staff. Run remedial teaching and Additional Teaching Support programmes from the start of the school year by recruiting teachers. Provide remedial classes in all primary schools according to the need to address and make up learning gaps. Restore the teacher responsible for the all-

day school programme. Open all necessary inclusion classes. Immediately abolish the unacceptable cap on recruiting the staff needed for parallel classroom support.

- A state plan for the development of school infrastructure. Immediately replace prefabricated metal kindergarten buildings. Immediate measures for pre-earthquake inspections and seismic protection of facilities at all levels of education.
- Abolish the Question Bank and the Minimum Admission Threshold. No “National School-Leaving Certificate” scheme in upper secondary education.
- A public, free programme of continuing teacher education. Repeal the entire legal framework for so-called school evaluation.
- Enrol all school-age refugee children in public schools, ensuring access for everyone for as long as they remain in our country.
- A state-organised school meals programme extended to all schools and kindergartens.
- Fully meet pupils’ travel and transport needs for music, arts and special schools.
- Exclusively public and genuinely free universities. Increase state funding to meet institutions’ real needs for modern, safe infrastructure, sufficient permanent staff and student welfare services.
- Repeal the reactionary laws imposing maximum study periods at public universities. No expulsion from the register of any student struggling to complete their studies.
- Repeal all reactionary laws on disciplinary measures against university students and staff. No implementation of the reactionary framework for repressing and silencing students and teaching staff.
- Modern employment and professional rights for all. The degree must be the sole prerequisite for full access to the profession corresponding to the course of study, without additional certifications, examinations or tests.
- No equivalence between degrees from public universities and those from University Education Legal Entities (NPPE) and colleges. No revision of Article 16.

## **11. Strengthen our struggle for the contemporary needs of women who work for a living**

**Together with farmers’ associations, self-employed people’s associations, OGE women’s associations and student unions.**

- Pregnancy, childbirth, postnatal, maternity and parental leave with full pay and social insurance rights, regardless of employment relationship. Abolish the requirement for 200 days of insurance contributions in the two years before childbirth to qualify for maternity benefit and leave.
- Maternity benefit for all self-employed women in towns and the countryside, without conditions or prerequisites.
- Protect women’s health and maternity through exclusively public and free health services for gynaecological examinations, prenatal screening, childbirth, medically assisted reproduction, and the prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of gynaecological cancers. Abolish commercial surrogacy.
- State coverage of all costs for diagnostic and preventive examinations, prenatal screening, medically assisted reproduction and childbirth, within a public, free health system emphasising prevention.
- Infant formula must be provided free or at very low prices, alongside the creation of breastfeeding information and education centres in maternity hospitals and the primary health care network, under the exclusive responsibility of the state.

- Develop free parental counselling programmes within the primary health care network.
- Public, free home nursing and care services funded from the state budget.
- Exclusively public, free, improved and modern early childhood education and care for ALL infants and young children.
- A network of public, free facilities for creative activities for infants, young children, older children and people with disabilities, together with child protection facilities and care services for older people and people with disabilities. Fully staff all social services with permanent personnel.
- An extensive network of public, free social services and facilities for abused women and their children, such as shelters, counselling centres and SOS helplines, funded from the state budget and staffed by specialised permanent personnel, without NGO or private involvement.

## **12. Comprehensive substantive scientific planning for the combined assessment of all natural and technological risks**

### **Under state responsibility and with state funding.**

- Immediately record all damage from recent natural disasters and provide those affected with 100% state compensation. Likewise, fully compensate everyone affected by natural disasters in previous years whose claims remain outstanding, for example in Thessaly.
- Immediately secure housing for fire victims whose homes have burned down, meet their most urgent needs, restore infrastructure and enable the fastest possible return to their homes.
- Increase state budget funding in line with the needs for protecting the people's lives and property from natural disasters. No changes in the land use of burned forests.
- Fill established vacancies in the Forestry and Fire Services with permanent personnel so that all service needs are met.
- Ensure that workers in businesses affected by fires or other natural disasters receive their wages, under the responsibility of the state and employers.
- No adverse consequences for workers through dismissals, enforced lay-offs or wage cuts.
- Compensate workers whose jobs and incomes depend directly on forests and who are left stranded without any income in areas hit by devastating fires.
- Employers must draw up workplace escape and rescue plans, regularly tested through drills. The competent state, regional and municipal services must immediately inspect all workplaces.
- Fully cover the actual damage to livestock and production losses caused by animal diseases. Implement free vaccination programmes and biosecurity measures under the exclusive responsibility and funding of the state. Fully replenish livestock at state expense. Immediately recruit the necessary permanent veterinary and support staff in state services.
- Cover 100% of all losses to production, crop and livestock assets, and infrastructure caused by natural disasters. Replace lost income for as long as necessary until production is restored. Change the regulation and increase state funding so that ELGA provides 100% compensation for production and capital losses from all causes of damage.

## **13. No participation in imperialist interventions and imperialist wars**

**Solidarity with refugees and all peoples. We will not choose a camp of robbers. Our**

**only hope is the struggle of the peoples.**

- Disengage Greece from imperialist wars and Euro-Atlantic and US-NATO plans. No involvement under any pretext or in any form. Stop bleeding the people to finance the anti-people wars in Ukraine and the Middle East. Money for wages, health, education and social insurance, not for the imperialist slaughterhouses.
- No conscript or member of the armed forces on missions beyond our borders. No deployment of Greek forces as an occupying force in Palestine or Gaza. Bring back all Greek military units stationed abroad as part of imperialist plans, including the Greek frigate in the Red Sea and the Patriot missiles in Saudi Arabia.
- Cancel the Greek-US agreement on military bases. Close all US-NATO bases of death in Greece. Our country must cease to be a launching pad for imperialist war hawks' attacks against other peoples, including the people of Iran, and a target for retaliation.
- Solidarity with Cuba. End the murderous US blockade now.
- The Greek government must sever military, political and economic relations with the murderous state of Israel and implement Parliament's unanimous 2015 decision to recognise the Palestinian state.
- End the genocide of the Palestinian people and the Israeli occupation. Israeli occupation forces must withdraw from Palestinian, Lebanese and Syrian territory.
- Recognise a united, independent Palestinian state on the basis of the relevant UN resolutions, within the borders existing before June 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital, without occupation forces or settlements.
- End the 52-year Turkish occupation of Cyprus. An independent, united Cyprus: one state, not two, with a single sovereignty, citizenship and international personality; without occupation forces or other foreign military forces and bases; without guarantors or protectors; a common homeland for Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots.
- Abolish the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum. Close all prison-like mega-facilities. No imprisonment of refugees and migrants, or imprisonment or any form of detention of minors. Rescue people in danger at sea and end pushbacks. Create open temporary accommodation facilities with decent living conditions and guaranteed food, health care, interpretation and legal assistance, under state responsibility and without NGO or private involvement.
- Grant asylum to those coming from countries affected by armed conflict, civil war, occupation or any form of imperialist intervention, and to victims of persecution whose lives are at risk. Ensure rapid procedures for granting asylum and travel documents, enabling these people to travel to their actual countries of destination.
- Grant long-term residence permits to all migrants and refugees living and working in our country, without the unacceptable terms and conditions of slave-trading interstate agreements and the employer-sponsored recruitment regime. No discrimination in employment or social insurance rights. Develop comprehensive social integration programmes under state responsibility, without NGO or private involvement. Ensure health care and necessary vaccinations. Give children access to education, with special reception and integration classes.
- Recruit permanent staff for all migration and asylum services. Make contract workers permanent and absorb NGO workers into these services.

***The PAME Secretariat***

***September 2026***

