

What you can do

General El-Sisi and Tony Blair are hoping that the rest of the world will forget about the crimes of Egypt's military regime. It is up to us to make sure that doesn't happen.

- Pass a resolution in your trade union branch. Find a model motion on our website
- Join a protest or organise your own. Look out for details on the websites below.
- Get in touch if you can help us build the campaign by organising a meeting in your workplace or university this autumn.
- Send a letter of protest to the Egyptian authorities. Details on our website: www.egyptsolidarityinitiative.org

Spread the word

www.egyptsolidarityinitiative.org

@Egy_Solidarity

www.egyptprotests2014.tumblr.com

www.global.revsoc.me / @RevSocGlobal

www.facebook.com/freemahienour /
@FreeMahienour

Key dates

16 July

Al-Jazeera journalists mark 200 days in prison

20 July

Mahienour el-Masry's appeal verdict due

21 July

Mahienour el-Masry to stand trial in a new case

22 July

Retrial of Alaa Abdel Fattah and other activists in the Shura Council case

14 August

Anniversary of the massacres at Rabaa al-Adawiyya and Al-Nahda Square where the army and police killed up to 1000 Muslim Brotherhood supporters

13 September

Yara Sallam, Sanaa Seif and others to stand trial for breaking the protest law

"It is vital for Egypt, the region and the world that the new President and his Government succeed in reforming their country and taking it to a better future"

Tony Blair, 2 July 2014

Strikes banned

Journalists jailed

Activists on trial

Opposition repressed

The case for mobilising international solidarity with all those facing repression by Egypt's military regime has gained new urgency with the revelations of Tony Blair's backing for El-Sisi's dictatorship. In this brief campaign guide we highlight some of the key issues for trade unionists and activists in the UK who want to help build the solidarity movement.

Strikes banned

Cuts and price rises are beginning to bite, but El-Sisi has accused striking workers of wanting "to eat Egypt". Meanwhile his Minister of Labour, Nahed el-Ashary, has already tried to enforce a year-long local strike ban in Alexandria. Independent trade unionists are regularly harassed, beaten and arrested when they organise protests and strikes. Draconian new laws banning political protests have also been used against striking workers.

Journalists jailed

Al-Jazeera journalists Peter Greste, Mohamed Fahmy and Baher Mohamed were given up to ten year sentences after a farcical trial which sparked protests by journalists across the world. Nor are they the only media workers facing the regime's crackdown on critical voices: on the same day the Al-Jazeera verdicts were announced, Mohamed Hegazy, a journalist for the Coptic channel Al-Tareq, was sentenced to five years in jail for reporting on sectarian violence in Minya.

Activists on trial

According to local human rights groups, over 40,000 people have been detained in connection with political protests since July 2013. A new law banning demonstrations without prior police permission has been used to hand down long jail sentences to activists.

Labour lawyer and revolutionary socialist activist Mahienour el-Masry is in prison for organising a protest demanding justice for Khaled Said, who was beaten to death by police in 2010.

Alaa Abdel Fattah and 23 others were given fifteen year jail sentences for taking part in a demonstration against the protest law and the use of military trials against civilians. Yara Sallam and Sanaa Seif were among 23 activists arrested during a peaceful march on 21 June which was attacked by thugs with knives and police in armoured cars. A judge ordered them to be locked up over the summer before their trial resumes in September.

Opposition repressed

Over 1000 alleged supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood have been sentenced to death since March this year, hundreds for the death of a single police officer. Nearly 200 death sentences have been confirmed.

Thousands have been swept up in the crackdown on the Brotherhood, often being held without charge or trial for months. Mohamed Soltan, the son of a prominent Brotherhood figure, has been on hunger strike since January after being held without trial since August 2013.

The crackdown has also extended to other groups, including the 6th April Youth Movement, which played a leading role in mobilising protests against Mubarak's regime. One of the movement's founders, Ahmed Maher and several other leading figures are currently in jail.

The message is clear: anyone who opposes the military regime is a potential target for repression.