

Enough! Protest, Resistance, Strike!



The following [resolution](#) was adopted in late June by 70 delegates representing the 700 shop stewards at the Mercedes-Benz plant at Untertürkheim, Germany. Translated from the [German](#) by Robert Dale.

The quote 'Whoever knows their true situation, how can they be stopped?', is from Bertolt Brecht's poem, 'In Praise of the Dialectic'.

Enough! Protest, resistance, strike!

The bosses want class war? Let them have it!

Almost every day another company announces it will be cutting jobs or making 'savings' at our expense.

It's a full-blown crisis. And the bosses want to make us pay for it.

The government is doing nothing for us either. They want to abolish the **eight-hour day**. They want to make us **work longer hours** for the same pay (**or less**). And they are planning to raise the pension age to 70.

They want us to work till we die. Their changes to benefit rules will force us to take any work, however miserably paid, after they **destroy our jobs**.

Their cuts are destroying the health service, and healthcare is increasingly becoming a privilege for the rich. And money taken out of the social budgets is now flowing into rearmament. **They want to send our youth to war again, for their corporate profits.**

The bosses, their government, and us? We stand on opposite sides of the barricades! **They want to overcome the crisis at our expense, and get even richer in the process. We want a good job, social security and peace.** But you don't get 'owt for nowt.

It's no use begging the government to help, or placing our hopes in a supposed 'Alternative for Germany'.

If we want better politics we will have to put up a political and labour fight! We are not going to wait until someone asks us to protest. We are getting on with it!

- We are stepping up **political discussions** with our colleagues here in the workplace. 'Whoever knows their true situation, how can they be stopped?'
- We are going to make use of every opportunity to **criticise the bosses and their government.** Going forward, there will be **no works meeting, no works council meeting, no union meeting without political discussion.**
- At first we may be alone, or just a few. **But if we raise our voices and show we have backbone, our numbers will grow.**
- As soon as we see that the mood is right, **we will organise protests in our workplace and our community.**

We are active in our union, and demand that **demonstrations** be organised as soon as possible, **against the greed of the bosses, against the government, and for a better future. Up to and including strikes.** And if our union leadership hesitates, we will do it ourselves.

Resolution adopted by the shop stewards at Mercedes-Benz Untertürkheim.