

# South Korea: Repression against Pulmuone Drivers, Police Raid on KPTU Office

Monday 9 November 2015, by [KPTU](#) (Date first published: 6 November 2015).

On the morning of Nov. 6 the South Korean police attempted a raid on the headquarters of the KCTU-Korean Public Service and Transport Workers' Union (KPTU). The police used the pretext of a high altitude protest being carried out by striking KPTU-Cargo Truckers Solidarity Division (KPTU-TrucSol) owner driver members who haul goods for the food products company Pulmuone. Some 200 police were mobilised in the action.

In addition to taking files from the TruckSol office on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the KPTU's building, police violated the spaces of unrelated KPTU affiliates and attempt to raid upper floors housing the KPTU secretariat and other KPTU-affiliated institutions, but were stopped by protesting union officers and members and supporters.

KPTU-TruckSol has been fighting for a system of standard rates and client responsibility to protect truck drivers and other road users for over a decade. Pulmuone members went on strike on 4 September against the client (cargo owner) Pulmuone calling for union recognition and for Pulmuone to take responsibility for safe and fair rates and conditions. Instead of listening to these just calls, the government and police have chosen the route of repression against Pulmuone drivers, KPTU-TruckSol and KPTU as a whole. The raid today is likely not the end. Arrest warrants have been issued for some dozen KPTU-TruckSol officers and members.

This attack has taken place in the context of an attempt to suppress the democratic labour movement ahead of mass worker protests scheduled for November 14 and further strike action later in the year against the Park Geun-hye government's labour market reform policies.

We will not back down in the face of this intimidation. The Pulmuone workers' strike and high-altitude protest go on, as do plans for Nov. 14.

We demand that the government and police stop their repression against Pulmuone drivers and KPTU-TruckSol! We demand that they apologise for the unfounded and excessive raid on the KPTU office!

## **KPTU**

Footage from the raid:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O9VPPW8dK\\_g&feature=youtu.be&app=desktop](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O9VPPW8dK_g&feature=youtu.be&app=desktop)

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