

International appeal for the immediate release of all political prisoners in Russia

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This urgent appeal was written in collaboration with activists and intellectuals living in Russia.

At the end of January 2021, a wave of mass protests swept through all of Russia's major cities. The occasion for these protests was the arrest of opposition leader Alexei Navalny, but the genuine cause was the enormous social inequality and political disenfranchisement prevailing in the country. Not all of those who took to the streets were supporters of Navalny, but they were all united by a desire for social and political change and a fatigue with the corrupt, authoritarian regime ruling Russia today.

Peaceful protesters faced unprecedented (even for Putin's Russia) police brutality: in a few days, over 10,000 people were arrested, many of them beaten on arrest. A climate of fear was created in the country: students who participated in the rallies have been expelled from universities, teachers who sympathized with them have lost their jobs, and school students have been intimidated for voicing their political stance.

While we disagree with Navalny's pro-capitalist orientation, which on this point is not different from that of Putin's regime and represents no real social and democratic alternative, we demand the immediate release of Alexei Navalny and all political prisoners, and stand in solidarity with all those in Russia who are fighting for social and environmental justice and fundamental democratic rights.

Argentina

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Martín Mosquera, Professor at the University of Buenos Aires & editor, Jacobin Latin America

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Nora Ciapponi, militante, candidate in 1973 as vice president of the Nation for el Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores.

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Austria

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Belgium

Yannis Thanassekos, ex-director of Fondation Auschwitz (1983-2010)

Eric Toussaint, PhD University Liège and Paris VIII, spokesperson CADTM international

Mateo Alaluf, Sociologue, professeur émérite de l'Université Libre de Bruxelles ULB
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Jean-Marie Chauvier, journalist, ex permanent correspondant Drapeau Rouge (Red Flag) in Moscow
Jean Delval, Editions du Cerisier
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Mauro Gasparini, Gauche anticapitaliste - SAP
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Brazil

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Ana Borguin - Union of Metroviarios of São Paulo
Luan Badia - Federation of University Workers (FASUBRA)
Camila Souza - Youth Movement Together!
Maurício Costa - Red Emancipa de Educación Popular
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Paula Kaufmann - Movimiento de Mujeres Juntas!
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Britain

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Costas Lapavitsas, University of London
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Michael Roberts, marxist economist, <https://thenextrecession.wordpress.com/>
Alex Callinicos, Emeritus Professor of European Studies, King's College London
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Simon Pearson, Anti-capitalist Resistance
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Andrew Kilmister, Editor, Journal of Contemporary Central and Eastern Europe
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Mark Findlay, Anti-Capitalist Resistance
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Canada

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China

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Christian Delarue, Amitié entre les peuples
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Olfa Lamloum, chercheur

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Brazil

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Comuna - PSOL

Insurgência - PSOL

Movimento Esquerda Socialista - MES/PSOL

Subverta - PSOL

Britain

Anti*Capitalist Resistance <https://www.anticapitalistresistance.org/>

France

Le Nouveau Parti Anticapitaliste (NPA)

Europe solidaire sans frontières (ESSF)

Union syndicale Solidaires

ENSEMBLE! (Mouvement pour une Alternative de Gauche, Ecologiste et Solidaire)

Germany

Internationale Sozialistische Organisation (ISO), section of the FI

Morocco

Courant Al Mounadil-a

Mexico

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Portugal

Toupeira Vermelha

Spanish state

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Switzerland

SolidaritéS

USA

Socialist Action socialistaction.org

Solidarity <https://solidarity-us.org/>

International Marxist-Humanist Organization www.imhjournal.org

Venezuela

Liga Unitaria Chavista Socialista (LUCHAS)

International

Fourth International <https://fourth.international/en>

Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)

International Marxist-Humanist Organization www.imhjournal.org

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