

Government & bosses attacks

The 2005 ICTU conference is taking place at a time when workers face increasing levels of attacks from governments and bosses.

In the North, New Labour is carrying out a vicious neo-liberal agenda. This includes cutting civil servants pay, the introduction of water charges, the privatisation of the water and postal services, and barbaric cuts in education and health.

In the South, privatisation is creeping into all public services. The privatisation of Aer Lingus represents a massive attack on working class communities in North Dublin. The exposure of the GAMA scandal by the Socialist Party and the Turkish workforce shows how the Southern government have facilitated super-exploitation.

State of the unions

Unfortunately, the leadership of the trade union movement failed to take any action to highlight the scandal of GAMA. This lack of fight from most trade union leaderships is also reflected in the cosy partnership relationship they have built up with the employers and government. In the North also, most of the unions are led by right-wing bureaucracies who are unwilling and incapable of organising an effective fightback to defend workers interests.

However, the winds of change are whistling within the trade union movement. In Britain, the RMT have been forced out of the Labour Party for defending their members. The FBU, following a motion moved by Socialist Party members in Northern Ireland, have broken from New Labour. Throughout Europe, workers are involved in fierce battles against their Governments neo-liberal attacks.

Socialist Alternative

What is clearly lacking internationally and locally is political representation of the working class. The Socialist Party has called this meeting to discuss how the left-led unions can work with the Lefts within other unions to transform them into effective fighting organisations for workers and how new mass parties of the working class can develop to fight for the socialist alternative.

Join the Socialist Party ☐ more info ☐

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TEL _____

Return to:

NORTH - Socialist Party 13 Lombard St Belfast BT1 1RB Tel 02890232962

SOUTH - Socialist Party 141 Thomas St Dublin 8 Tel 01 6772686

**Privatisation, Cuts, Service
Charges, Job Losses, Exploitation...**

How the Left can make the unions fight

Time for new
working class parties

Guest Speakers:

Jim Barbour, Executive member FBU

Billy Lynn, President NIPSA

Denis Keane, Vice-President CPSU

Chair:

Paul Dale, Fermanagh Trades Council

2pm Wed 22nd June
Socialist Party Offices,
13 Lombard St (next to Caffè Uno)

Meeting organised by the Socialist Party

Speakers appear in a personal capacity