



- \* Fight for democratic rights**
- \* For democratic struggle committees to organise and lead the movement**
- \* For a general strike to overthrow the regime**
- \* For a socialist alternative to the reactionary regime of Ahmadinejad and to imperialism**

To the courageous workers and youth from Iran

Through this letter we, as a fighting socialist party, want to express our strongest solidarity with the struggle of the Iranian workers and youth against the brutal theocratic regime in Iran.

This struggle goes clearly beyond the question who won this election. This is a struggle for genuine democratic rights, the right to strike, to hold free elections, form free trade unions, political parties and equality for women. These rights need to be fought for by all workers, youth and socialists. The formation of democratically elected committees of struggle from the workplaces and universities linking with the middle class and urban poor can form the basis of such a united struggle.

It is possible that Mousavi may try and reach a compromise with the existing regime to avoid bringing the masses onto the streets. Alternatively, the regime may be forced to accept Ahmadinejad's defeat in order to try to maintain control of the situation. Attempts may also be made to wind down the protests for fear of their consequences. We should have no illusions in Mousavi, a former prime-minister, whose pro-capitalist programme is limited to reform of the current theocratic state.

We think that the calling of a general strike and forming of defence militia along with a class appeal to the rank and file of the army are steps which are necessary to take the movement forward to overthrow the regime. Such committees could also convene elections to a revolutionary constituent assembly to decide the future of Iran. The guarantee of democratic rights and a solution to the mass poverty and unemployment can only then be assured with the formation of a workers' and peasants government on a revolutionary socialist programme to transform society in the interests of all working people.

We express our deepest solidarity and will report widely to the Belgian working class and youth about the real story of what is happening in Iran. We will do within our possibilities everything to support your struggle.

Bart Vandersteene

National spokesperson for the LSP/PSL