# WORKERS Twenty Four years SOLIDARITY

Twenty Four years of Irish Anarchist News



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# THE TRIUMPH OF GREED OVER NEED

The construction industry and the property market have well and truly collapsed. House prices have already fallen by up to 20% in some areas since 2006, and the fall is set to continue for some years still.

Although many politicians and developers will tell you that the property crash is nobody's fault – due to market conditions – they are simply liars. The reality is that the property bubble was entirely predictable. The problem was that a significant number of capitalists were making shed-loads of cash off rising prices: developers, bankers, landowners and so on.

Irish politicians were hardly going to spoil their party when so many brown envelopes were addressed to them. The corporate media gorged itself on the revenue from property ads and, in return, were happy to provide platforms for a whole host of snakeoil salesmen – banks' economists, estate agents and other vested interests - to pimp their propaganda.

The overall affect of all this greed and corruption was that Ireland's economic boom ended up being mostly diverted into the pockets of a tiny number of capitalists. Although they were the ones who made the cash, everybody has to live with the ruinous consequences of their decisions. The country is littered with thousands of empty properties in areas without services where nobody wants to live.

the economy and thousands of lives – that's somebody else's problem.

There is nothing inevitable about this system. It would be perfectly possible to organise housing in a completely different way. Society could provide everybody with

organise housing in a completely different way. Society could provide everybody with decent housing as a basic right. Doing so would cut out all the horrendous waste and greed that the profit-motive introduces.

At the same time, hundreds of thousands of people will spend decades struggling to pay back the massive loans they took to buy their homes. If interest rates continue to rise, thousands could face eviction and

repossession. This appalling vista is a direct consequence of an economic system

Housing is a basic human need - people

really can't choose to do without it. Those who own property exploit this need to enrich themselves. They don't care if they wreck

based on greed and exploitation.

The reason that society doesn't do it like that is not because it's too difficult, it's because the current situation suits those with power perfectly well. Workers, in general, have no say in such matters, all we can do is to try to get as good housing as we can afford and keep our fingers crossed that the market doesn't turn on us.

In the long term, the only solution is to replace capitalism with a system where housing is allocated according to need, not profit. However, there's no point waiting around for the revolution. In the short term, there are a whole host of ways in which workers can limit the destructiveness of capitalists.

Demanding more public housing, opposing planning corruption, resisting evictions, protesting poor conditions and many other such actions can give workers some measure of control over the housing market. As the property crash intensifies, more and more people will have to choose between fighting back and penury. The sooner we start organising the better.

Protesters outside Dublin City Hall in May when long-promised 'PPP' regeneration plans for their communities were scapped after billionare developers McNamaras said there was not enough profit for them.

Chekov Feeney

NEWSPAPER OF ANARCHISTS IN IRELAND

# Pay restraint is not for the rich, but ICTU still say

# Carry On Partner

Working people in the Irish Republic have been hearing a lot from the representatives of our exploiters about the need for us to exercise 'pay restraint' and to 'moderate our demands' in these difficult times. The bosses' organisations IBEC and ISME have been given considerable airtime and newspaper space in order to convince us of the necessity for sacrifice on our part, and this message has been taken up by the government too.

Brian Cowen tells us that 'pay restraint under partnership' is necessary, and will be good for the economy 'going forward', like Bertie Ahern said before him. Meanwhile our purchasing power at the supermarket tills, petrol station forecourts and high street shops is shrinking before our eyes. Who are these guys trying to fool?

Inflation is currently running at its highest level for twenty years because the rise in the price of ever-scarcer resources is being imposed on us every time we go shopping or pay a bill. But we cannot expect any relief in the form of higher wages for our work that makes and distributes all that we ourselves consume.

The bosses who profit from our daily need to live do not feel they must themselves live by their message. It's different for them. There is no call for them to restrain their profit taking for the common good. No, we are told that they have to maintain and even increase their profits to show that Ireland is 'globally competitive' and a 'healthy' economy. These messages from the business establishment and government come when the so-called partnership process enters another round of nerotiations.

Ordinary working folk should not be fooled by self-serving rhetoric coming from the privileged, but many senior trade union leaders taking part in the negotiations will tell us that nothing better is possible. Their very good salaries and high-powered careers mean they don't really share the concerns and understand the vulnerable situation of hundreds of thousands of their own members.

#### Even under 'partnership' you're better off in a union

The Central Statistics Office says trade union members usually get better pay than those who are not unionised.

The average difference is £6.05 an hour for women and €3.43 an hour for men.



Despite much searching Siobhan could find no evidence of partnership being good for her

They are more concerned with not rocking the boat, and will recommend a yes vote on the pay terms, almost regardless of what is proposed. What is described by the high priests of money and (sometimes) the Irish Congress of Trade Unions as restructuring and 'flexibility' are better known by their real names of job losses and casualisation.

In tough times we are all expected to rescue the rich and privileged from the consequences of their own economic system, and make good their losses. We, on the other hand, can expect no such tender care - we are the ones who will make sacrifices. Why should we? And why is it always us whose demands must remain unmet, while Capital and Profit march greedily on?

Why should we accept this unequal sharingout of risk and reward? A good first step towards rebuilding fighting unions and putting working class interests first would be the rejection of the 'partnership' confidence trick. Then we should carry on to end the power of the profiteers over our lives!

Ray Hanrahan

## Contacts

#### ANARCHIST ORGANISATIONS

Workers Solidarity Movement PO Box 1528, Dublin 8 www.wsm.ie wsm\_ireland/a yahoo.com corkwsm(a gmail.com helfasta wsm.ie

Revolutionary Anarcha-Feminist P.O. Box 10785. Dublin 1 www.ragdublin.org

Organise! PO Box 505, Belfast, BT12 6BO http://organiseireland.blogspot.com

#### LIBERTARIAN NETWORKS

Indymedia Ireland The place to find Irish campaign news www.indymedia.ie

Radical bookshop and social space 61 Barrack Street, Cork City centraladminzone@gmail.com

Seomra Spraoi Dublin social centre, reopening shortly at 113 Cork Street. www.seomraspraoi.blogspot.com

Revolt Video Radical video collective http://revoltvideo.blogspot.com

#### CAMPAIGNING GROUPS

Shell to Sea

Campaign to move Shell's gas pipeline offshore from Co. Mavo www.shelltosea.com

Hands Off the People of Iran Anti-imperialist network for solidarity with Iranian trade unions and the women's rights movement. www.hopoi.org

Choice Ireland Abortion rights action group choiceireland(a gmail.com

Residents Against Racism Opposing racism & deportations 24-hour helpline: 087-666 2060

Anti-War Ireland Democratic anti-war organisation www.antwarireland.org

Anarchist Black Cross (Belfast) Assists class war prisoners worldwide www.myspace.com/belfastabc



LabourStart

for Irish and international trade union news

www.labourstart.org



## The Federation of Anarchist Communists of Italy

have an English language site with lots of articles and pamphlets for you to read or download.

www.fdca.it/fdcaen

# of the political elites who have concocted this treaty and grown rich on the back of EU expansion and the celtic tiger?", the result is no mystery at all. The middle class have mostly agreed - why wouldn't they? The working class are naturally more sceptical and unwilling to sign a blank cheque for those who have plundered the coffers while leaving our schools, hospitals and infrastructure to crumble.

So in the face of the remarkable unity of the European ruling classes behind this initiative that we remarked upon before the referendum, the Irish working class has responded with its own unity in a clearsighted refusal to give legitimacy to a treaty that sought to trick its way past democratic accountability by shrouding its real designs in a deliberately impenetrable fog of bureaucratic gobbledegook.

It's an old cliche to say that Dev would be spinning in his grave, but the event that is the referendum result has broken the post civil-war bipartisan consensus that, no matter what else, class politics was the one thing that had to be avoided at all costs in this state. Of course one swallow does not make a summer, but this event is like the sudden spark in the night that illuminates a scene for a brief instant and reveals a hitherto hidden scene. A very different social picture from the smug triumphalism of the FF 2007 election victory.

The referendum result is not only a crisis for the constitution of a bosses' Europe, but also the beginnings of a political breakdown of the FF/FG excommunication of class politics from Irish society.

Paul Bowman

### Lisbon Vote: A Class Act

As the morning of Friday 13th of June grew towards midday, the government realised with mounting horror that they had not only lost the referendum for the Lisbon treaty, but had lost badly. In the end, with a turnout higher than both Nice referenduma and European elections, the Irish

electorate had cast more No votes than the number that elected the FF government last year.

In the days that followed the media commentators in press, radio and television, groped around blindly for arguments or reasons why the people have rejected the appeals of the united front of political parties and bosses to "do the right thing" and rubberstamp this treaty.

But amongst all the outpouring of words



from the chatterati, one theme, indeed Friday the 13th's most strking and historic theme, has been missing. A wise man once said "listen for the silences". In this deluge of punditry there has been an almost total silence over "the big C". As in class, not cancer. The results of this referendum show a vote split along class lines that has not been seen so clearly since the founding of the Republic.

Indeed, given that the referendum basically came down to a question of "do you believe that your interests are the same as those

## US Dockers strike against the war

For those of us involved in the fight for workers' power, the 1st of May gave us much to be cheerful about. Traditionally



a day to celebrate working class solidarity and militancy, workers in America and Iraq marked it with a wonderful demonstration of both of these fine qualities.

Work was shut down in 29 ports across the US as 25,000 dock workers organised in the International Longshore and Warehouse Union went on strike against the American war in Iraq. This action was supported by some truck drivers and postal workers in the US, and by fellow dock workers in Iraq who struck in the ports of Umm Qasr and Khor Al Zubair, protesting against the war, religious sectarianism, and the economic agenda of the occupation.

As they wrote in a solidarity letter to ILWU members: "The courageous decision you made to carry out a strike on May Day to protest against the war and occupation of Iraq advances our struggle against occupation to bring a better future for us and for the rest of the world as well. We are certain that a better world will only be created by the workers and



The union's drill team leads the San Francisco May Day march

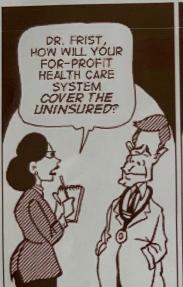
what you are doing is an example and proof of what we say... We in Iraq are looking up to you and support you until the victory over the US administration's barbarism is achieved."

Ronan McHugh

# Get involved, check out - www.wsm.ie

It's not incompetence, it's sabotage

# HSE Board have an interest in running down health service





Let's put a gang of joyriders in charge of road safety. An unbelievably stupid idea? Of course it is, only someone who didn't give a damn about road safety would even suggest it. So would you put people with a financial interest in running down the public health service in charge of our hospitals?

That's exactly whatthe government has done. The Board of the Health Service Executive is full of them. Making profits is what really matters to Brian Cowan and his chums in the PDs and Green Party.

A pitiful public service forces people to buy private health insurance and use private facilities. Just over 50% of the population have done this, mostly to get just basic care without waiting years.

Chairman, Liam Downey used to be Chief Executive of the medical company, Becton Dickenson. He also sits on the executive of the bosses' organisation, IBEC.

Joe Macri, European boss of computer multinational Microsoft.

Donal de Buitleir is a general manager in Allied Irish Banks.

Niamh Brennan, wife of former PD leader Michael McDowell, is an accountant, Professor of Management at UCD, and belongs to the Institute of Directors.

Eugene McCague is one of the owners of law firm Arthur Cox, whose business clients control much of the country's wealth. He is also a member of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce.

Another IBEC executive member is Neither of the two medical members of the

Board actually works with people who are ill. Michael Murphy is Dean of Medicine at University College Cork and Anne Scott is Professor of Nursing at Dublin City University.

Psychologist Maureen Gaffney is also on the Board. A regular on RTE radio, she has an opinion on everything except the state of our hospitals.

Pat Farrell is the former chief executive of Galvia Private Hospital in Galway, and current Chief Executive of the Irish Banking Federation.

Joe Mooney is a newly retired senior civil servant from the Department of Finance, and P.J. Fitzpatrick is Chief Executive of the Courts Service.

# Undocumented Irish in US to be hit by new anti-union law



The Kansas Senate has voted in a new law that will make criminals out of unions which organise workers who are illegal immigrants. To "collect union dues from any alien who is not lawfully present in the United States" would be subject to fines from \$2,000 to \$10,000.

The same Senators repeatedly rejected attempts to impose punishments on employers who knowingly hire undocumented workers. In other words, in Kansas, while employers are free to do whatever they want when hiring, trade unions will be punished for uniting with their work colleagues.

What a boon this will be to union busting employers! Keeping the undocumented out of unions makes them more exploitable. And any boss wanting to stick the boot into the union only has to drop in a few illegal aliens, let the union recruit them, then make sure the union gets reported for collecting dues. The fines hurt the union and the employer gets off free and easy!

Informacje i artyku v w jezyku polskim postepne na stronie www.wsm.ie/polska

#### Thinkina Anarchism

# Why Class Matters

The concept of class is fundamental to the anarchist understanding of society. The goal of anarchist Anarchists argue that it is in automatically. Neither are we saving communism is to create a classless society where everyone is on an equal footing, where all have the long-term interests of all, that class is the only oppression but equal access to wealth and contribute to society as best they can. Why then do anarchists argue that regardless of their relative position rather that it must be a focus if we only the working class has the power to create a free and equal society?

Many figures in the economic and political clite argue that we now live in a classless society. While

it is true that class as an economic and social phenomenon has changed as capitalism has developed, this is not to say that we are no longer divided by class, just that the boundaries and definitions have become more complex.

classes: the working class and the the capitalist class. capitalist class. The working class

working class) as well as (due to our changing economy) many in white collar jobs. It also includes the many women who do the unwaged work of child rearing and housekeeping capitalism a very small number of which ensures a steady supply of people have most of the wealth and new workers for the bosses, Those power. The interests of those at the

The distinction between the working class and the capitally class all that is a fundamental force shaping are thereby decreased. best described m terms of their

**Belfast jury says** 

fighting war

criminals is

not a crime

that direct action was justified!

prosecution had feared most was

the jury acquitting the 9 because

human rights abusing regime

brought in front of a jury

Raytheon 9 acquitted on the grounds

It was a victory for people applying But they failed

First of all, lets try to define what we social infrastructure like education, mean by "class". The simplest way health and other public services; the to begin is to look at the two main rest is profit or "surplus value" for

may be broadly defined as those who In other words, work generates must work to survive but have little wealth but this wealth is not control over the nature of their work controlled by those who do the work, or indeed the circumstances of their it is controlled by those who manage and direct the workers. Examples of those in this class would be In todays Ireland, this includes both high-ranking businessmen, large blue-collar workers (the "traditional" landowners and members of the

The working class far outnumbers those in the capitalist class; under dependent on the social welfare are bottom (housing, good working also part of this class since their conditions, health care etc) are in payments are based on either work conflict with those at the top who they have done or their potential to wish to maintain their privileged position; this is what is meant by "class struggle". Anarchists contend

ownership of the things which are The divides are not always so black needed to do work: land, factories, and white; there are those workers raw materials etc, which we refer to who have a higher standing than as "the means of production". In a those lower down the scale. These nutshell, the capitalist class own and arc the so-called "middle classes". control these things. The capitalists which can be difficult to define pass some of this wealth back to the as at each end they shade into the other, divided under gender, ethnic

in the current system, to unite are to achieve any lasting change against the capitalists. For this to beyond token reforms. For example, happen, it is necessary that a class admitting more women to positions of power in the current system does little to improve life for the majority of women in the working class Domestic labour is still carried out unpaid by millions of working class

A truly revolutionary movement can only come from the action of the working class as a class. We are the ones who keep society running, it is well within our ability to remove the political and economic apparatus that forces most of the population to work for the benefit of a privileged elite. Our experience of working co-operatively under capitalism prepares us to take control. Victories in our everyday struggles to improve working and living conditions teach

Bob Kavanagh



The Health Services Executive in Cork is spending nearly four that used to be done by a HSE A worker in the Environmental Health Unit (which deals with everything from transport to pest control) used to get a maximum of €700 a week until he retired this year. Now the same work is being given to a private firm, who charge

62 625 a week

"There wasn't anyone in the office, from the receptionist up, who paid as low a tax rate fas mel." The world's third richest man, Warren Buffiett, explained on NBC television how the US taxation system favours the rich over everyone else. He said he paid 17.7% compared to an average 32.9%

among his office staff.

According to the Forbes annual list of billionaires, the richest 300 families own over 50% of the world's monetary wealth.

According to the UN Food & Agriculture Organisation approximately 6 nullion children are dying from hunger every year, and every day 30,000 children die from easily preventable diseases like dearrhoea, measles and

2005, profits in the 26 county retail sector rose by 338% but wages only wern up by 126%. Such are the benefits of 'social

#### individuals are encouraged to Some libertarians argue that focusing compete for a better position. The on class is unnecessary and means possibilities for collective action to ignoring other forms of oppression improve the position of all workers such as sexism and racism. Other left wing tendencies have argued that these are "side issues" to the issue of class. Anarchist communists see any working person will tell you all forms of oppression as having a they wouldn't mind higher wages connection and serving to re-enforce or better working conditions. The

Anarchists are not saying that once one section of the class against each we get rid of class, that such things as seviem and racism will disappear

consciousness be developed, so that

individuals recognise how they are

being exploited and realise their

collective power to change society.

Unfortunately, this does not always

come about spontaneously.

corporate PR gurus, the government and the mainstream media

Instead they cut through the crap and people who decided not to wait for promises, and took matters into their



cannalist bullshit. What the petitioned to have it moved from Derry they believed them when they said would not be as sympathetic to the that they had sabotaged Raytheon's motivation of the 9. They thought it computers in order to disput the more likely to believe the ideological bullshit which calls sabotaging an arms firm's computers a crime while These activities are supplying the calling the bombing of civilians "legitimate business mass destruction to the world's most

But it didn't work. That the jury acquitted the 9 goes to show that That is why the prosecution had ordinary people, when presented tried to have the case tried as a with all the facts in a measured and "terrorisi"case, so it wouldn't be



would be white-collar workers with

some degree of managerial power,

self-employed business people or

farmers. The creation of a "middle

class" enables the capitalists to rule

more effectively and invisibly: by

old tactic of "divide and rule" by

the capitalist class also serves to pit

creating a sort of "class ladder"

supported the actions of ordinary politicians to fulfill their empty

Whoever said that radical ideas like taking direct action don't appeal to the majority of people? This case proves that, given the chance to hear all the facts, most of us will support direct action. We say, fair play to the Raytheon 9! And fair play to the jury foracquittingthem



# Solidarity action by Cork Dockers

In mid-April, Cork dock workers took action in support of the crew of The Defender, a cargo ship owned by Forestry Shipping from Riga, Latvia but registered in Cambodia. The Defender had nine crew on board and was carrying cargo for delivery in the Cork area. Kevin Doyle spoke to spoke to Peter Anders, Stephen McCarty and Timmy Ricken, members of SIPTU's No 5 branch about the action.

Some new lousy contracts were of Doyles. Doyles are the stevedore

company that we work for. They

were dealing withthe Defender.

You were at work when you heard weren't honoured by the owners. We also met with a representatives about the situation of the crew. Can you tell me what happened? Well you see, the boys in Connolly Hall\* heard about the Defender via Ken Fleming of the International across on the docks or Transport Federation. We were what? working when we got a call at 9am to When we were asked tellus that the crew on this Defender to support them we did hadn't been paid. When we got to so and it was then we where the ship was berthed. Ken found out about what Fleming was there with our acting was happening on the branch secretary. There were six Defender. The ITF knew of our colleagues discharging the ship - well five and a foreman, that is. The ship was loaded with timber. So, we were made aware of the consequences of the situation and there was a bit of too-ing and froing. We were asked for our support. Fleming. And we decided to support the crew on humanitarian grounds - that the What was the respons people weren't being paid. Our lads stopped unloading the ship at about 11 action? or 11.30 or thereabout. \*SIPTU's Well nothing happened

What was the exact situation of

main office in Cork

he' lain t' been paid for a long l'leming about 2pm. To be homest while. Over four months. Which for seagoing people is a very, very hard thing to swallow. You can imagine even when they berthed in a port these men probably had no money to disembark. It was very difficult. The crew's claim for unpaid wages amounted to over €50,000. They big discussions going on about the We weren't going to unload the ship were all signed up for the agreed proposed extension of the Cork docks until they did. ITF minimum rates, but these rates down into Ringaskiddy deep port,

Is this an unusualsituation to come

about it and had been tracking the ship for a while. She was regularly calling to Cork, that ship, it 'till we heard via Ken

then! What I mean is that the timber load was on the Defender and that was where it was staving. We had a meeting with Ken the Harbour Board, not Doyles, not we were a little annoyed we heard so late in the day about the ship and we said that. But anyway we went from there to the new airport hotel and we met the Harbour Master and others there. They were all at a meeting upat this hotel as there were

Scene of the crime What happened then? No one was happy at this stage. Not

Hid the crew get their money at publicised cases? the ship's agent. To he hir, if it was known about what was happening this point? with the Defender, it wouldn't even Well the Harbour Master got onro have been let into Cork Harbour in

the owners and said about the money Master could technically sell the cargo to settle the matter if he wished. Our employer. PF Doyle. went with the flow then. They wanted to get the cargo moving too

Where was theship from?

What was the upshot of the meetingat the airport?

it was impounded. Along the way, a Harbour Board workers and pilots big load of cigarettes was found or board her too - so that complicated Did all the crew of the Defender things further for the owners. So anyway the ship was now to be kepi in port. Once we had secured this paid, we gave our men the word to on that cargo of timber. Those sailed of again.

And anyway at this potnit word was It was a Latvian ship but the sailors out. The Harbour Board workers were a couple of nationalities. We are also militant - the harbour pilots weren't too worried where they were and so on, I mean. If they say some action is justified, then not much can

We have a great relationship with We got a guarantee from the Harbour them. And if we are backing a authorities that the ship would not be dispute, they will back us up. And allowed leave the port. In fact the we would also back them. We are all ship was arrested - in the sensethat - in No 5 branch of SIPTU, as are the

In three or four days yes. We started the action on a Thursday and by agreement that the crew would be Tuesday of the following week we were notified that they had all been discharge the cargo as there were paid. Everything wem well once quite a few businesses waiting we secured the agreement. The ship

Yougot the result?

Once we stopped the unloading it brought it all to a head. If that hadn't been done I think the crew would still be without their

In the recent times. there have been a few well publicised cases of dock workers acting in solidarity with other workers and with larger political struggles. The South African workers refused to unload weapons for Mugabe's regime in Zimbabwe and

then there was action of US dock workers against George Bush's war in Iraq. Are there similarities with these widely

Solidarity isalways there It's always been there, but when we don't know about a situation ordispute we don't do anything. But once we were notified as I said then it's different Our priority once we knew about it was to get the erest paid. And we

#### **Workers Solidarity Movement**

Our campaign against the Lisbon as far apart as Ballina, Ennis and Bray; street stalls in Limerick Waterford our case that working people should have no confidence in the bosses' plans, and we introduced anarchist acountered them before

Friday July 4th saw 17 people give up their lunchhour to leaflet workers at Lionbridge in Dun Laoghaire The multinational firm sacked a trade union representative in their Warsaw office and, as part of an international day of action, the Z.SP union a sked the WSM to stage a protest and inform staff here about the case. They were leaffeted about the victimisation, and oth contact details of unions here Meanwhile, in an attempt toscarestaff away from talking to us, management ilmedeverything forthefull hour we snatched leaflets from staff and

The following day saw the WSM work, and now they want to decide respond to another call for solidarity Starbuck in Spain and the USA

CNT-AIT union in Spain and the Industrial Workers of the World. Cork and Wexford; and 50,000 profits and the benefits of unionisation were given to staff in cafies in Belfast Cork and Dublin

Anarchism and the



Green branch moved up the road to the Dayson Street one after hearing the manager there had tom them up They decide how much you get paid, what hours you what 'their' staff can read With bosses like that who ean doubt the need for aumon?

#### Turkish workers take on killer bosses

workers went on strike in a bid weighing half aton. to stop workplace deaths at Tuzla docks, near Istanbul.

19 deaths since the Minister of was 35 years old lhsan Turman.

"Mourn for the Dead Fight like hell for the livina!"

On June 16th Turkish shippard crushed to death under machinery

the lack of safety equipment and There have been 97 deaths since the reckless disregard for safety the shipyard was privatised by the regulations shown by the shipyard government five years ago and management, subcontractors and the Ministry authorities. Limiter-ls Employment and Social Security (the main union on the site), Tib-der proinised, on September 8th 2007, (shipyard workers' unity association) the issue would be resolved. The and the Shinvard Workers' Council latest worker killed in the shipyards have called for an open ended

> At the end of February 2008 shipvard workers went on a two day strike afterfive deaths in that month alone. They are also just the tip of the The authoritarian, religious Turkish government and the national media remained silent about the deaths until they were faced with further protests by the families of the huge national and international

national strike in response to these

preventable work place deaths.

During the protests 70 workers were arrested and one worker was run over Messages of support and solidarity by a car belonging to a subcontractor can be sent to: limteris a gmail con-

banners and publications belonging to the union and arrested union officials. The representatives of the subcontractors, who are responsible

the first place. But that was a good

move by Ken Fleming and the ITF

So our priority was to get the sailors

their money It was total in nistice

Workers in Turkey face tremendous pressures in making demands for basic rights such as workplace safety, job security, better pay and a minimum standard of living. They face arrests and lengthy sentences for "public disorder". lock-outs and losing their jobs. The shipsard workers who are taking this action to stop deaths face death themselves

According to official statistics more than a thousand workers due in Turkey each year in preventable workplace deceased workers, which attracted accidents and five thousand die from workplace acquired illnesses

## NEWSPAPER OF ANARCHISTS IN IRELAND

Demandring, maver problee locusing, opposing processing posts contribution, execution of posts of the contribution creating eventuous, of control outst file locusing markets. As the proper of control outst file locusing markets. As the proper of control outst file locusing markets. As the proper of control outst file locusing markets. As the proper of control outst file locusing markets. As the property care and large of control outstand property of the control of the control outstand outstand the control outstand outst

In the iongrem, theonity solution is to replace capitalism with a system where the solutions in the solutions in the system where are the recording to need, not profit, the alterited according to need, not profit, the profit of solutions. In the revolution, In the short term, there are a whole loos of onesys in which oversers can a whole loos of onesys in which oversers can a more according to the solution of t

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Protesters outside Dublin City Hall in May when long-promised 'Pr regeneration plans for their communities were scapped after billions levelopers McNamaras said there was not enough profit for them. YTINUMM NVId



The overall affect of all this greed and corruptions was that lectured is coronomic become and the left of the state of the corruptions was the corruptions of a tiny tendence of explaints in the because of the corresponding to the consequence of their decisions. The country is fluered with the outside of empty properties in areas without and the corruptions where

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MOBKEBS

Twenty Four years of Irish Anarchist News

Pay restraint is not for the rich, but ICTU still say

## Carry On Partner

Working people in the Irish Republic have been hearing a lot from the representatives of our exploiters about the need for us to exercise 'pay restraint' and to 'moderate our demands' in these difficult times. The bosses' organisations IBEC and ISME havebeen given considerable airtime and newspaper space in order to convince us of the necessity sacrifice on our part, and this message has been

Despite much searching Siobhan could find no evidence of partnership being good for her

They are more concerned with not rocking

They are more concerned with not rocking the boat, and will recommend a yes vote on the pay terns, almost regardless of what is proposed. What is described by the high priests of money and (sometimes) the Irish Congress of Trade Umons as 'restructuring' and 'tlexibility' are better known by their real names of job losses and casualisation.

in tough times we are all expected to rescue the rich and privileged from the consequences of their own economic system, and make good their losses. We on the other hand, can expect no such tender care – we are the ones who will make scarrifices. Why should we? And why is it always us whose demands must remain unmer, while Capital and Profit march greedily on?

Why should we accept this unequal sharing

why should we accept this functual sharing-out of risk and reward? A good first step towards rebuilding fighting umons and putting working class interests first would be the rejection of the 'partnership' confidence trick. Then we should carry on to end the power of the profiteers over our lives!

RavHanrahan

Brian Cowen tells us that 'pay restraint under partnership' is necessary, and will be good for the economy 'going forward', like Bertie Ahern said before him. Meanwhile our purchasing power at the supermarket tills, petrol station forecourts and high street shops is shrinking before our eyes. Who are these guys trying to foot?

tion is currently running at its highest level for twenty years because the rise in the price of ever-scarcerresources is being imposed on But we cannot expect any relief in the form of higher wages for our work that makes and distributes all that we ourselves consume.

distributes all that we ourselves consume. The bosses who profit frem our daily need to live do not feel they must themselves live by their message. It's different for them. There is no call for them to restrain their profit taking for the common good. No, we are told that they have to maintain and even increase their profits to show that Ireland is 'globally competitive' and a healthy! ceronomy. These messages from the business establishment and government come when the so-called partnership process enters another round of negotiations.

Ordinary working folk should not be fooled by self-serving rhetoric coming from the privileged, but many senior trade union leaders taking part in the negotiations will tell us that nothing better is possible. Their very good salaries and high-powered careers mean they don't really share the concerns and understand the vulnerable situation of hundereds of thousands of their own of hundreds of thousands of their own



The Central Statistics Office says trade union members usually get better pay than those who are not unionised.

The average diffierence is €6.05 an hour For women and €3.43 an hour for men,



Workers Solidarity Movement PO Box 1528, Dublin 8

Group PO. Box 10785, Dublin 1 www.ragdublin.org

LIBERTARIAN NETWORKS

Indymedia | reland The place to find | risl www.indymedia.ie

Seomra Spraoi Dublin social centre, reopening shortly at 113 Cork Street.
www.seomraspraoi.blogspot.cor

ical videocollective //revoltvideo.blogspot.com

CAMPAIGNING GROUPS

Shell to Sea Campaign to move Shell's gas pipeline offshore from Co. Mayo www.shelhosea.com

Hands Off the People of Iran Anti-innerialistnetwork forsolidar Anti-imperialistnetwork for itywith Iraniantradeunion womenls rights movement www.hopoi.org

Residents Against Racism Opposing racism & deportations 24 hour helpline: 087-666 2060

Anarchist Black Cross (Belfast) Assists class war prisoners worldwie www.myspuce.com/belfastabc

#### Informacje i artykuly w jezyku polskim dostepne na stronie www.wsm.ie/polska

gets off free and easy! oul of unforts makes unem house exploinable. And any boss warning to stick the boot into the union only has to recent in the make sure the union gets reported for collecting dues. The fines but the union and the employet needs offlittee and easy. What a boon this will be to union busing employers! Keeping the undocumented employers! The subject of the subj

i Kansas, while employers are free to o whatever they want when hinng, ade unions will be punished for uniting ith their work colleagues, The same Senators repeatedly rejected attempts to impose punishments on employers who knowingly hire on employers who knowingly hire undocumented workers. In other words

THE CARRAS COUNCE IN A VOICE A BA 200 HAVE A BA COUCE A BA COUCE A VOICE A VOI The Kansas Senale has /

> wal noinu-itha be hit by new or 2U ni deinl Undocumented

Joe Mooney is a newly retired senior civil servant from the Department of Finance, and P.J. Fitzpatrick is Chief Executive of the Courts Service.

rent Chief Executive of the Irish Banking Pat Farrell is the former chief executive of Galviay, and of Galvia Private Hospital in Galvay, and

Psychologist Maureen Gaffney is also on the Board. A regular on RTE radio, she has an opinion on everything except the state of our hospitals.

Board actually works with people who are ill. Michael Murphy is Dean of Medicine is Professor of Nutsing at Dublin City Norversity.

Another IBEC executive member is Neither of the two medical members of the

Eugene McCague is one of the owners of son that owners of law firm Arthur Cox, whose business disents control much of the country's wealth. He is also a member of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce.

Niamh Brennan, wife of former PD leader Michael McDowell, is an accountant, Professor of Management at UCD, and belongs to the Institute of Directors.

Donal de Buitleir is a general manager in Allied Irish Banks.

Joe Macri, European I multinational Microsoft. poss of computer

Chairman, Liam Dovney used to be Chief Executive of the medical company, Becton Dickenson, 1-te also sits on the executive of the bosses' organisation, IBEC.

A philful public service forces people to buy pragte health instrumers and use private learning to be prover 50% of the population have done this, mostly to get just basic care without waiting years.

That's exactly what the government hasdone. The Board of the Jeanh Service Executive as full of them, Making profits is what really matters to Britan Cowan and his chums in the PDs and Green Party.

Statiqsod tuo

financial interest in running down the public health service in charge of stupid idea? Of course it is, only someone who didn't give a damn about road safety would even suggest it. So would you put people with a Let's put a gang of joyriders in charge of road safety. An unbelievably





### down health service interest in running HSE Board have an

1t's not incompetence, it's sabotage

Get involved, check out - www.wsm.ie

## anarkismo.net

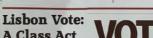
LabourStart

www.labourstart.org

**A Class Act** 

government last year.

War





The Federation of Anarchist Communists of Italy

have an English language site with lots of articles and pamphlets for you to read or

www.fdca.it/fdcaen

orning of Friday 13th of June grew towards midday, the government realised with mounting horror that they had not only lost the referendum for the Lisbon treaty, but had lost badly. In the end, with a turnout higher than both Nice referenduma and Lisbon electorate had cast more No votes than the number that elected the FF

In the days that followed the media commentators in press, radio and television, groped around blindly for arguments or reasons why the people have rejected the appeals of the united front of political parties sses to "do the right thing" and rubber

Friday the 13th's most strking and historic theme, has been missing. A wise man once said "listen for the silences". In this deluge said "listen for the stiences". In this deluge of punditry there has been an almost total silence over "the big C". As in class, not cancer. The results of this referendum show a vote split along class lines that has not been seen so clearly since the founding of the Republic

Indeed, given that the referendum basically came down to a question of "do you believe

of the political effles who have concocted this treaty and grown rich on the back of EU expansion and the celtic tiger?", the result is no mystery at all. The middle class have mostly agreed - why wouldn't they? The working class are naturally more sceptical and unwilling to sign a blank cheque for those who have plundered the coffers while leaving our schools benshits. ers while leaving our schools, hospitals

So in the face of the remarkable unity of the European ruling classes behind this initiative that we remarked upon before the referendum, the Irish working class has responded with its own unity in a crear-sighted refusal to give legitimacy to a treaty that sought to trick its way past democratic accountability by shrouding its real designs in a deliberately impenetrable fog of bureaucratic gobbledegook.

It's an old cliche to say that Dev would be spinning in his grave, but the event that is the referendum result has broken the post the referendum result has broken the post civil-war bipartisan consensus that, no matter what else, class politics was the one thing that had to be avoided at all costs in this state. Of course one swallow does not make a summer, but this event is like the wide season is the state that illuments that illuments the silver in the silver that illuments that illuments the silver in the silver that illuments that illuments that illuments the silver in sudden spark in the night that illuminates a scene for a briefinstant and reveals a hutherto hidden scene. Avery different social picture from the smug triumphalism of the FF 2007 election victory.

The referendum result is not only a crisis for the constitution of a bosses' Europe, but also the beginnings of a political breakdown of the FF/FG excommunication of class

Paul Rowmon

#### US Dockers strike against the war

For those of us involved in the fight for workers' power, the 1st of May gave us much to be cheerful about. Traditionally a day to celebrate working class

solidarity militancy, workers in America and in America and Iraq marked it with a wonderful demonstration of both of these fine qualities. Rich Man's Poor Man's

Work was shut down in 29 ports across the US as 25,000 dock workers organised in

the International Longshore and Warchouse Union went on strike against the American war in Iraq. This action was supported by some truck drivers and postal workers in the US, and by fellow dock workets in Iraq who struck in the ports of Umm Qasr and Khor Al Zubarr, protesting against the war, religious sectarianism, and the economic agenda of the occupation.

As they wrote in a solidarity letter to ILWU members: "The courageous decision you made to carry out a strike on May Day to protest against the war and occupation of traq advances our struggle against occupation to bring a better future for us and for the rest of the world as well. We are certain that a better world will only be created by the workers and



The union's drill team leads the San Francisco May Day march

what you are doing is an example and proof of what we say... We in Iraq are looking up to you and support you until the victory over the US administration's barbarism is

Ronan M. Hogis

**Title:** Workers Solidarity, No. 104

**Organisation:** Workers Solidarity Movement

**Date: 2008** 

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