

**WE WILL NOT PAY THE BILL OF THE CRISIS!**

**LONG LIVE**

**1. May!**

**KRİZİN FATURASINI BİZ ÖDEMEEYECEĞİZ!**



**CONFEDERATION OF WORKERS FROM TURKEY IN EUROPE**

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## **WE WILL NOT PAY THE BILL OF THE CRISIS!**

### **Long Live May Day of Unity, Struggle and Solidarity of the Working Class!**

With the emergence of the working class on the stage of history, its conscious struggle against oppression and exploitation has continuously developed. Throughout history, the working class has struggled for its personal rights, organisation, equal pay for equal work, child labour, discrimination, exploitation, and oppression. The struggle, which started in the late 1800s for the improvement of working conditions, limiting daily work to 8 hours and weekly working days to five days, continued with long-term strikes in many branches of labour. On 1 May 1886, many workers lost their lives in the police attack on the strike launched by textile workers in Chicago. Four valiant leaders of the resistance were executed. In 1889, the Second International Congress held in Paris adopted May 1 as the „International Day of Unity, Struggle and Solidarity of the Working Class“ starting from 1890, in reference to these resistances in the USA. From 1890 to the present day, 1 May is celebrated with enthusiasm around the world every year. This year, 1 May will be celebrated by the working class with the slogans of struggle against war and poverty.

### **War, crisis, and poverty are growing!**

The crisis of competition between the imperialists is deepening. The contradictions between the NATO forces led by the USA and backed by the European Union countries on the one hand, and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation forces led by China and Russia on the other, are intensifying with regional wars.

The US interventions in Afghanistan in 2001 and Iraq in 2003 continued with Syria and Libya. In the face of these attacks, the strengthening of Russia's influence in the Middle Eastern countries weakened the dominance of the US and EU imperialist countries in the region. This brought about the further aggression of the NATO forces.

The western imperialist powers, whose dominance in the Middle East weakened, made a move to weaken Russia by trying to take Georgia, Crimea and Ukraine, where Russia has market dominance, into NATO. However, with Russia's intervention in Crimea and Georgia, this move of NATO was frustrated. Subsequently, in 2014, pro-EU armed forces in Ukraine launched a bloody uprising against the pro-Russian government and a coup d'état was carried out with the massacre of 14 thousand people. With this coup, the US and EU imperialist powers established their dominance in Ukraine.

However, the mutual conflicts of the imperialist powers in Ukraine gradually deepened and on 24 February 2022, Russia attacked Ukraine and further deepened this conflict. Despite Russia's attack, all NATO powers stood behind Ukraine with the most modern weapons and financial power, once again opening the doors for the conflict between the

imperialist powers to move towards a world war.

The imperialist system is trying to postpone its crisis, which has deepened in recent years, by various methods, especially regional wars like the one in Ukraine. But every move it makes deepens the crisis even more. The deepening of the crisis, the developing wars, the flexible working, the development of cheap labour and the increase in the prices of the necessities of the masses, especially basic foodstuffs, which the monopolies apply to improve their international competitiveness, have brought together the further impoverishment of the workers and labourers.

### **The workers are being made to pay the bill of the crisis!**

For the first time in the world since 1970, inflation has risen to such an extent, bringing with it an intense erosion in the real wages of workers. Hundreds of millions of workers worldwide are unregistered, flexible, deprived of social rights and unorganised. Wage inequality among workers based on gender inequality is growing. The conditions for young people to receive education, acquire a profession and find a job are becoming increasingly difficult. The low wages given to young people who have a profession further increase the exploitation of them.

In addition, the army of the unemployed is growing every day. According to data for 2022, 205 million people worldwide are unemployed. This deepens impoverishment. According to the figures, 811 million people in the world go hungry, while 2 billion people suffer from malnutrition. According to the same figures, 6.4 per cent of working people live in extreme poverty. In European countries, the number of people living on the poverty line is increasing every day.

### **Workers' struggle for their rights is developing in Europe!**

In many countries of the world the struggle of workers and labourers against the existing system is developing more and more decisively every day. The struggle against war and impoverishment, especially for increasing the wages of workers and labourers, for trade union rights and for the defence of acquired rights, continues with resistance in many countries of Europe. The struggle of French workers against the increase in the retirement age from 62 to 64 continues with street resistance and workplace occupations. The biggest strikes of the last 30 years in Germany against the blockage in collective agreements concerning millions of workers and labourers in various professions, the strike and mass actions initiated by dock workers in Greece are developing country-centred with the participation of workers in other professions. In the UK, the strike of railway workers is

developing with the resistance of health workers and firefighters.

## **On May Day, let's grow the struggle against war and impoverishment!**

As workers and labourers in Europe, let's grow the common struggle against war, oppression, exploitation, and poverty with street actions on 1 May.

The technological development in the fields of production further reduces the need for human labour. Therefore, let us popularise the demand for 6 hours of work per day and 30 hours per week for full wages in Europe.

Let's strengthen the fight against the bill of the war to be paid to the workers and against the war by shouting Karl Liebknecht's words „Not a man, not a penny to this system“ on the streets.

As ATIK, we call on all local and immigrant workers and labourers to increase the common struggle against imperialism, fascism, and racism on May Day!

**6 Hours a Day, 30 Hours a Week Working Time for Full Wage!**

**We Will Not Pay the Bill of War!**

**Long Live the Unity, Struggle and Solidarity of the Working Class!**

**Long Live May Day!**