

1165 Passed 10 March 2010

Motion of Solidarity

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The Union notes:

- 1) Bahrain, Libya, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Iraq, Iran and Syria have undergone massive demonstrations for democracy and better living standards
- 2) Egypt and Tunisia have overthrown their dictators but the protests continue despite massive loss of life
- 3) Protests in Libya have also continued despite increasing violence and repression from the Libyan government forces
- 4) A no fly zone over Libya would be counterproductive to their revolutionary struggle, leading to an even greater loss of life
- 5) Tanks have been seen crossing from Saudi to Bahrain. Any attempt at the government of Bahrain to use force against demonstrators there would result in an escalation of violence and an increase in the body count
- 6) The king of Bahrain has been invited to the royal wedding

The union believes:

- 1) Students are leading the struggles for change in this country, it is important that as students we show solidarity with them
- 2) The unprecedented use of force against largely peaceful demonstrators should be condemned at every opportunity. We also believe that our government is partly responsible for the deaths as our state have supplied repressive regimes with concessions and weapons that have enabled them

- 3) The invitation to the royal wedding should be removed for the dictator King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, who has used live automatic weapons of peaceful demonstrators in Bahrain
- 4) Only the people can liberate themselves, foreign intervention would be counterproductive to the revolutionary struggle
- 5) We have policy on sending solidarity to students in occupation, the same should be true for students in revolutionary struggles

The union resolves:

- 1) To send messages of support to the relevant trade unions, student groups and political bodies in countries experiencing revolutionary struggle and demonstrations for democratic freedom
- 2) To condemn the royal family for inviting someone who is responsible to for deaths of peaceful demonstrators
- 3) To lobby local MPs to oppose any attempt at foreign intervention