

## Grussbotschaft an die Delegierten des KNUT Kongresses

Dear colleagues and delegates of KNUT teachers union delegate conference:

First I wish you a successful delegate conference

(I became no answer from the leaders of education and science union GEW - maybe they write to you directly - or from the union of services called ver.di, I don't know the reason .

Maybe because I always worked at grassroots level and criticized some union leaders, who are too near to the government and to the employers, so they forget the interests of their members, because - one of the reasons - they are paid like big bosses and are too far from the sorrows and interests of the normal more and more precarised members.

Not all of them - some parts of the local union leaders are very strong when it comes to organise necessary strikes and actions and meetings at the workplaces, against the upgoing financial and poverty in the brain in the still not ending crisis of a society, whose most important law is the most maximal profit of a minority and the cuttings of salaries, retirement benefits, health care and all social things for the majority .

So it is a personal solidarity in my name

Today I read the information, that a court said yes to pay the benefit of retirement in the sense of your ultimatum, so it's another proof, that only union and political pressure brings the government and the parliament to do more and fulfill contracts and agreements. Congratulations - as soon as the money is real on the accounts of the retired teachers.

In many situations the language of strike is the only language the government and the parliament understand to come in dialog and make law changes in the interest of the working and poor to get better working conditions and respect the democratic and constitutional right to organise, to meet, to publish your opinion, to demonstrate and to strike without repression or beating or shooting of the police or the military.

In this context your successful strike was an important step coming nearer the targets: better public schools with classes not more than 25/30/35/45 children, enough laicistic books and teachers without negative ethnicity and not only one religion dogmatic but uplaering the sciences, the history and democratic rights and a learning to be strong enough to use the democratic rights and the multicultural tolerance and goodness to live in peace together, without discrimination and criminality whatever.

How to support all the human friendly and solidarity science and artistic possibilities who are inside of all children - no mind with community or social class? How to make them strong for the harder and harder economic competition without becoming selfish and bad only meateaters against their own social heritage, milieu or class ?

What is more: For all a better public social security system instead of privatising - less work hours so that more young teachers become the chance to start work - and a payment of all public teachers with a unlimited working-contract to do this responsible work for the future of the children - even if most of them will have no chance for a dignity job and a secure life in human conditions in the sense of the universal human rights, declared on 10 dec 1948 to pretend more world catastrophes like in the time of the worldwar 2.

Some school-classes can take care of the memorial stone and plants near the entry of historical museum of the Kenyas, who lost their life for the liberation. A good possibility to



make a history lesson from our side and to speak about the reasons of the actual wars and how to end them or how to refuse coming in a situation to kill.

Maybe some of these targets seem too far or too pathetic and it needs more steps. But anyway, in this sense I wish you some constructive days with new power for all what are our longer targets and next plans, for a better, more just society and organize more such amazing active members without too much fears about coming difficulties and stronger relations to all other unions of the other branches fighting for similar targets.

Solidarity forever, solidarity is our strength - these and many other international union and working class songs in my ear

**Reinhard Gebhardt**

**7. 12. 12**

**Nairobi**