

Trade Union Activist Network

Reclaim our unions

Protest against this Anti-jobs, Anti-worker Budget

Join the March at 12.00pm Saturday 26th November,
Garden of remembrance, Parnell Square, Dublin 1

This forthcoming budget will increase the hardship on working people through cuts in public services and increased taxation. The continuation of this austerity strategy by the present government will further lower the living standards of already struggling workers and the unemployed. The tax increases are equivalent to €600 per household, budget cuts will see €1.5b taken out of schools, hospitals and social welfare, and €700m from state investment plans like rail and roads projects. The fact is austerity is not working and it will continue to cost jobs and prolong this recession.

Meanwhile the present trade union leadership have been silent and inactive; increasingly workers carry the burden of this crisis while those who caused it are bailed out again and again. The €727m given to unsecured Anglo-Irish bondholders in November is equivalent to the proposed cuts in social welfare. This year alone

€10b has been given to Irish Banks; such money could have created 120,000 jobs if invested in public works by the state. Trade union activists on the ground are experiencing continued attacks like those on the JLCs, the Croke Park Agreement that accepts thousands of job losses in our public services, and the introduction of the unfair universal social charge. Employers have also used the crisis to drive down wages and push up productivity in many cases with the support of the trade union bureaucratic leadership.

In recent years workers have come out in their tens of thousands in protests and strikes against this austerity only to be let down by our leaders.

The ICTU has offered no resistance to these attacks and have proved they are unwilling to fight for the alternative to the strategy of austerity.

The TUAN is aiming to build an opposition within trade unions that

unites activists in a campaign to reclaim the unions for the membership. The TUAN wants to replace the current union leaders who refuse to fight and defend their members' pay, jobs, conditions and public services.

We stand for

- Democratic and fighting trade unions to defend jobs and wages
- Public investment in jobs and services to stimulate the economy
- Tax the wealthy and corporate sector
- Solidarity between workers in action

This demonstration has been called by the Dublin Trades Council and is supported by the ICTU, community groups, single issue campaign groups and the political left. We cannot afford to wait for this leadership to start fighting back. We must organise from below among our trade union branches and members. Come to the demonstration and find out more about the TUAN.



Contact us at tradeunionnetwork@gmail.com
tradeunionactivist.wordpress.com