

8 November 2022

## Statement for Mahsa Jina Amini

Workers in CUPE 3902 stand in solidarity with the Iranian people's nationwide mass uprising against the autocratic and repressive Islamic Republic of Iran following the killing of Mahsa (Jina) Amini. The slogan of the movement, "Woman, Life, Freedom" centres the demands for women's rights and gender justice within the Iranian people's struggle for freedom, democracy, and political and human rights.

As you are likely aware, the uprising began in response to the death of 22 year-old Iranian-Kurdish woman Mahsa Amini in the custody of the "morality police" in Tehran due to severe beatings and injuries on September 16th 2022. She was detained for wearing an "improper" head covering. Protests have ignited in over a hundred cities. Women and students have played a key role in the demonstrations. While the initial protesters gathered in grief and anger for Amini's murder and called for the end of the mandatory head covering, they have since expanded to call for women's as well as basic human rights, and against social and political repression. The government has responded with violence, as security forces have brutally suppressed nationwide peaceful demonstrations, and arrested, injured, and killed protesters. On October 12, 2022, state security and plainclothes forces violently suppressed the peaceful student demonstration at Sharif University of Technology in Tehran; some students were injured and arrested. The governmental special military forces have been attacking universities and student residences daily ever since. The government has shut down the internet for more than 40 days now, and censored social media extensively. As of the 14th of October, at least 234 protesters have been killed, including 32 children.

As trade unionists and feminists, we stand with Iranian women and protesters who are mourning the death of Amini, and echo their calls for gender justice, democracy, and fundamental freedoms.

To learn more about the situation in Iran, search #MahsaAmini Twitter, or watch this video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EZMvrkU\\_eEY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EZMvrkU_eEY)

In solidarity,

CUPE 3902

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