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DEFEND MIGRANTS FIGHT FASCISM



This year we have seen some of the largest mobilisations by the far right for decades. Internationally we have witnessed the election of Bolsonaro in Brazil, the rise of the AfD in the Germany, the alt-right in the US and Golden Dawn in Greece. Across the world the Trump presidency shines out as a beacon for the rising fascist tide. Fascists and racists in the UK have been encouraged by the growth of the far right on an international scale, organising through the Democratic Football Lads Alliance, UKIP and fascists associated with 'Free Tommy Robinson'.

ORGANISATION

It is vital that we organise on the streets and counter the fascists to stop them marching and organising. Trade unionists have a fundamental duty to organise in their workplace to build resistance to the fascist threat and demonstrations can be vital in stopping the far right on the streets and giving confidence to anti-racists.

But racism doesn't just exist with the far right. Recently the Windrush scandal laid bare the brutality of immigration removals and the 'Hostile Environment', a series of policies since 2014 has enforced stricter controls over undocumented people. The 2016 Immigration Act prevents 'illegal' migrants from accessing housing, driving licences, and bank accounts. In the form of migration controls and state 'counter-terrorism' the establishment has created a perfect breeding ground for the far right. The government's Prevent agenda enforces the racist monitoring of Muslims in all aspects of civil society, demanding that everyone from teachers to doctors report on anyone without enough commitment to 'British values', and generating a climate of racist suspicion towards migrants and racial minorities.



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WORLD IN CRISIS

In an age of deepening imperialism and climate crisis, where millions of people displaced by war and economic ruin are swept across the world, we should not be surprised to find the same words and arguments in the mouths of mainstream politicians that circulate among the far right. The establishment may not necessarily like fascism, but as states become ever more authoritarian in an effort to respond to the catastrophes on the horizon, the strategies of the ruling class and the power of the state and borders will continue to give momentum to the far right.

We need to be clear that anti-fascists and anti-racists can't stay silent on state racism when hundreds of thousands of people starve at the border or live in fear of detention, deportation and rendition.

As the skies darken it will be more and more tempting for anti-racists to fall into line and defend the status-quo, but we must realise that the defining struggles of our age will involve attacking the causes of racism, and attempting, wherever possible, to uproot the racist structures which feed the right.

Through struggle from below this can be done; only last week the Government closed Campsfield detention centre after decades of protests, and last year the government was forced to abandon data-sharing between the NHS and the Border Force.

UNITING CAMPAIGNS

As trade unionists we should support campaigns such as **Docs not cops** and **Patients not Passports** who campaign against borders in the NHS, and stand firm against the extension of **Prevent** into our lives and workplaces. We need to unite not only in marches against the fascists, but also to demand the closure of migration detention centres and free passage for migrants and refugees.

We must stand in solidarity with all our brothers and sisters, migrant and non-migrant, against fascists, the state and borders.

FUTURE EVENTS: 1st December 2018

Where: London

Protest: TOGETHER FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

Heatwaves and hurricanes make it clear: it's time to act on climate change. The recent IPCC report is a landmark for our planet, setting out just what is at stake if we breach 1.5C warming. The Paris agreement was a starting point but we have a long way to go, and it's not just Trump who won't quit fossil fuels. From fracking to a Heathrow third runway, the UK is stalling on climate action.