



# Iraq Union Solidarity

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Dear Friend,

**Behind all the press and TV reports of new governments and constitutions, and bloodshed by both US/UK troops and Al Qaeda types, there is another story in Iraq.**

It is that of the new Iraqi labour movement, re-establishing itself in difficult circumstances. Iraqi workers have set up trade unions, evicted old Ba’thist bosses and new American contractors, won pay raises, campaigned to save jobs, demanded jobs or benefits for the unemployed, and resisted privatisation. The diverse and lively Iraqi labour movement can be a key force in winning a free, democratic, and secular Iraq.

Iraq Union Solidarity is a grassroots network of trade unionists and activists set up to support, fundraise and co-ordinate efforts to support the Iraqi trade union movement, in line with TUC policy passed at the 2004 Congress.

We work to spread information, to assist links at every level between the British and Iraqi labour movements, to help arrange speakers and meetings, and to raise money for the hard-pressed new independent trade union organisations in Iraq.

We invite your organisation to affiliate. Our affiliation fee is only £5 for a year, just to cover the costs of our meetings and mailings. We encourage organisations to contribute more, and will forward any amount sent to us above the basic £5 to the TUC Iraq Appeal in order to assist trade unionists in Iraq. Cheques payable to “Iraq Union Solidarity”, please).

We would also be happy to provide a speaker from our campaign to come to speak at one of your meetings, either on IUS’ s work generally, or on a more specific question related to the new Iraqi labour movement and its struggles.

Affiliates will receive regular information from IUS, and can send a representative with voting rights to all our organising meetings.

You, or some of your members, may also be interested in joining IUS as individuals, or finding out more about IUS. We invite you to:

- Come to our monthly organising meetings in London (details on our website).
- Join our information e-list (send a blank email to [ius-subscribe@unionlists.org.uk](mailto:ius-subscribe@unionlists.org.uk))
- Check out our website, [www.iraqunionsolidarity.org](http://www.iraqunionsolidarity.org).

Hoping to hear from you,

Best wishes,

Martin Thomas, secretary IUS.

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Affiliation form for Iraq Union Solidarity: 2005/6

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..... (organisation)

Email .....

Mailing address for correspondence if no email:

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Secretary ..... Phone .....

Cheques payable to “Iraq Union Solidarity”, please.