

International Labor Network of Solidarity and Struggle
Réseau Syndical International de Solidarité et de Lutte
Rede Sindical Internacional de Solidariedade e de Lutas
Red Sindical Internacional de Solidaridad y de Luchas
Rete Sindacale Internazionale di Solidarietà e di Lotta
الشبكة النقابية العالمية للتضامن والنضال
Internationales Gewerkschaftsnetzwerk der Solidarität und des Kampfes



www.laboursolidarity.org

Collective protests begin to flare up again as China returns to work

<https://clb.org.hk/content/collective-protests-begin-flare-again-china-returns-work>

After a month in which there were virtually no worker protests in China because much of the country was on lockdown, workers are beginning to take collective action again. Many protests have been related to the economic distress caused by the covid-19 epidemic.

China Labour Bulletin's [Strike Map](#) has recorded 25 incidents since businesses outside the central province of Hubei tentatively resumed production after the extended Lunar New Year break in mid- and late-February. This is still a very low number compared with previous years and most protests were relatively small-scale, but given that covid-19 is still prevalent in many parts of the country, it is remarkable that there are any collective protests and demonstrations at all. Many of the protests were in service and transport industries that were already experiencing economic difficulties prior to the covid-19 outbreak.

On 10 March, for example, more than [a thousand taxi drivers in the southwestern city of Liuzhou](#) staged a protest demanding the suspension of cab rental fees and the right to sell their vehicle back to the cab company with no penalty. Drivers said that even though people were returning to work, the lack of passengers made it impossible for them to earn a living. There was a noticeable increase in the number of [taxi driver protests](#) prior to the covid-19 outbreak at the end of last year as pent-up frustrations over local government regulations, cab company management and especially competition from ride-app and unlicensed drivers erupted in a series of large-scale and sometimes violent protests.

Most of the recent worker protests have been related to wage arrears and layoffs. Several workers at a snack food company in Beijing, for example, staged a [protest on 10 March](#) after the company refused to pay three months' wages in arrears totalling nearly 400,000 yuan even after an arbitration court ordered it to pay up.

The previous day, 9 March, there was a protest by medical staff at a [private hospital in Zibo, Shandong](#), who were also owed three months' pay and claimed moreover that the hospital was using expired medical supplies.

In another Beijing protest, workers demonstrated against the mandatory [unpaid leave policy](#) implemented by online service provider [58.com](#) that would only give staff a subsidy equal to 80 percent of the local monthly minimum wage, far from a living wage.

There were also several protests in early March by small shop and restaurant owners demanding rent cuts because of the drastic downturn in business they had experienced since the onset of the epidemic. [The Financial Times noted](#) that family-run shops, street stalls, hole-in-the-wall eateries and other small businesses employ about 230 million people in China and are particularly vulnerable to economic shocks because they have less capital and are less able to borrow.

Construction workers, including some workers who were recruited to build [emergency hospitals](#) for covid-19 patients in Wuhan, have also been forced to protest over unpaid wages. Most recently workers at a [construction site in Zhoukou](#), Henan, were beaten after staging a wage arrears protest.

As normal production gradually resumes in China, workers who are already struggling after months of economic disruption will be more determined than ever to ensure their rights to remuneration, social insurance and compensation are not violated.

Les organisations membres du Réseau syndical international de solidarité et de lutte

Organisations syndicales nationales interprofessionnelles

- Central Sindical e Popular Conlutas (**CSP-Conlutas**) - Brésil.
- Confederación General del Trabajo (**CGT**) - Etat espagnol.
- Union syndicale Solidaires (**Solidaires**) - France.

- Confédération Générale du Travail du Burkina (**CGT-B**) - Burkina.
- Confederation of Indonesia People's Movement (**KPRI**) - Indonésie.
- Confederación Intersindical (**Intersindical**) - Etat espagnol.
- Confédération Générale Autonome des Travailleurs en Algérie (**CGATA**) - Algérie.
- Batay Ouvriye - Haïti.
- Unione Sindacale Italiana (**USI**) - Italie.
- Confédération Nationale des Travailleurs - Solidarité Ouvrière (**CNT SO**) - France.
- Sindicato de Comisiones de Base (**CO.BAS**) - Etat espagnol.
- Organisation Générale Indépendante des Travailleurs et Travailleuses d'Haïti (**OGTHI**) - Haïti.
- Sindicato Intercategoriale Cobas (**SI COBAS**) - Italie.
- Confédération Nationale du Travail (**CNT-f**) - France.
- Intersindical Alternativa de Catalunya (**IAC**) - Catalogne.
- Union Générale des Travailleurs Sahraouis (**UGTSARIO**) - Sahara occidental.
- Ezker Sindikalaren Konbergentzia (**ESK**) - Pays basque.
- Confédération Nationale de Travailleurs du Sénégal Forces du Changement (**CNTS/FC**) – Sénégal
- Sindicato Autorganizzato Lavorator COBAS (**SIAL-COBAS**) - Italie.
- General Federation of Independent Unions (**GFIU**) - Palestine.
- Confederación de la Clase Trabajadora (**CCT**) - Paraguay.
- Red Solidaria de Trabajadores - Pérou
- Union Syndicale Progressiste des Travailleurs du Niger (**USPT**) - Niger.
- Union Nationale des Syndicats Autonomes du Sénégal (**UNSA**) - Sénégal.
- Unión Nacional para la Defensa de la Clase Trabajadora (**UNT**) - El Salvador.
- Solidaridad Obrera (**SO**) - Etat espagnol.
- Confederazione Unitaria di Base (**CUB**) - Italie.
- Independent Workers Union of Great Britain (**IWGB**) - Grande-Bretagne.
- Ogólnopolski Związek Zawodowy Inicjatywa Pracownicza (**OZZ IP**) - Pologne.
- Centrale Démocratique des Travailleurs de Martinique (**CDMT**) – Martinique.
- Associazione Diritti Lavoratori Cobas (**ADL COBAS**) – Italie
- Bangladesh Anarcho-Syndicalist Federation (**BASF**) - Bangladesh

Organisations syndicales nationales professionnelles

- National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers (**RMT/TUC**) - Grande-Bretagne.
- Centrale Nationale des Employés – Confédération Syndicale Chrétienne (**CNE/CSC**) - Belgique.
- Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores del Sistema Agroalimentario (**SINALTRAINAL/CUT**) - Colombie.
- Trade Union in Ethnodata - Trade Union of Employees in the Outsourcing Companies in the financial sector - Grèce.
- Syndicat national des travailleurs des services de la santé humaine (**SYNTRASEH**) - Bénin
- Sindicato dos Trabalhadores da Fiocruz (**ASFOC-SN**) - Brésil.
- Organizzazione Sindacati Autonomi e di Base Ferrovie (**ORSA Ferrovie**) - Italie.
- Union Nationale des Normaliens d'Haïti (**UNNOH**) - Haïti.
- Confederazione Unitaria di Base Scuola Università Ricerca (**CUB SUR**) - Italie.
- Coordinamento Autorganizzato Trasporti (**CAT**) - Italie.
- Syndicat des travailleurs du rail – Centrale Démocratique des Travailleurs du Mali (**SYTRAIL/CDTM**) – Mali.
- Gıda Sanayii İşçileri Sendikası - Devrimci İşçi Sendikaları Konfederasyonu (**GIDA-IŞ/DISK**) – Turquie.
- Syndicat National des Travailleurs du Petit Train Bleu/SA (**SNTPTB**) - Sénégal.
- Asociación Nacional de Funcionarios Administrativos de la Caja de Seguro Social (**ANFACSS**) – Panama.
- Palestinian Postal Service Workers Union (**PPSWU**) - Palestine.
- Union Syndicale Etudiante (**USE**) - Belgique.
- Sindicato dos Trabalhadores de Call Center (**STCC**) - Portugal.
- Sindicato Unitario de Trabajadores Petroleros (**Sinutapetrolgas**) - Venezuela.
- Alianza de Trabajadores de la Salud y Empleados Publicos - Mexique.

- Canadian Union of Postal Workers / Syndicat des travailleurs et travailleuses des postes (**CUPW-STTP**) – Canada.
- Syndicat Autonome des Postiers (**SAP**) - Suisse.
- Federación nacional de trabajadoras de la educación (**SUTE-Chili**) - Chili.
- Plateforme Nationale des organisations professionnelles du secteur public - Côte d'Ivoire.
- Fédération nationale des ouvriers et collectivités locales - Union Marocaine du Travail (**UMT-Collectivités locales**) - Maroc.
- Centrale Générale des Services Publics FGTB, Cheminots (**CGSP/FGTB Cheminots**) - Belgique.
- Botswana Public Employees Union (**BOPEU**) - Botswana.
- Organisation Démocratique du Travail – Organisation Démocratique du Travail (**ODR/ODT**) – Maroc.
- Federacao Nacional dos Trabalhadores em Transportes Aéreos do Brasil (**FNTTA**) - Brésil.
- Federação Nacional dos Metroviários (**FENAMETRO**) - Brésil.
- Namibia Football Players Union (**NAFPU**) – Namibie.
- Palestinian Electricians' Trade Union (**PETU**) – Palestine.
- Missão Publica Organizada – Portugal.

Organisations syndicales locales

- Trades Union Congress, Liverpool (**TUC Liverpool**) - Angleterre.
- Sindacato Territoriale Autorganizzato, Brescia (**ORMA Brescia**) - Italie.
- Fédération syndicale SUD Service public, canton de Vaud (**SUD Vaud**) - Suisse
- Sindicato Unitario de Catalunya (**SU Metro**) - Catalogne.
- Türkiye DERİ-İŞ Sendikası, Tuzla et Izmir (**DERİ-İŞ Tuzla et Izmir**) - Turquie.
- L'autre syndicat, canton de Vaud (**L'autre syndicat**) - Suisse
- Centrale Générale des Services Publics FGTB, Ville de Bruxelles (**CGSP/FGTB Bruxelles**) – Belgique.
- Arbeitskreis Internationalismus IG Metall, Berlin (**IG Metall Berlin**) - Allemagne
- Sindicato Unificado de Trabajadores de la Educación de Buenos Aires, Bahia Blanca (**SUTEBA/CTA de los trabajadores Bahia Blanca**) - Argentine
- Sindicato del Petróleo y Gas Privado del Chubut/CGT - Argentine.
- UCU University and College Union, University of Liverpool (**UCU Liverpool**) - Angleterre.
- Sindicato di base Pavia (**SDB Pavia**) - Italie.
- United Auto Workers local 551 Ford Chicago (**UAW Ford Chicago**) – Etats-unis.
- Sindicato Uno Prodinsa, Maipú – Chili.
- Asociación Gremial de Trabajadores del Subterráneo y Premetro, Buenos Aires (**SUBTE/CTAt**) – Argentine.
- (سندیکای کارگران شرکت واحد اتوبوسرانی تهران و حومه (واحد) Syndicat des travailleurs du transport de Téhéran et sa banlieue (**Vahed**) – Iran.

Organisations syndicales internationales

- Industrial Workers of the World - International Solidarity Commission (**IWW**).

Courants, tendances ou réseaux syndicaux

- Transnationals Information Exchange Germany (**TIE Germany**) - Allemagne.
- Emancipation tendance intersyndicale (**Emancipation**) - France.
- Globalization Monitor (**GM**) - Hong Kong.
- Courant Syndicaliste Révolutionnaire (**CSR**) - France.
- Fronte di lotta No Austerity - Italie.
- Solidarité Socialiste avec les Travailleurs en Iran (**SSTI**) - France.
- Basis Initiative Solidarität (**BASO**) - Allemagne.
- LabourNet Germany - Allemagne.
- Resistenza Operaia - operai Fiat-Irisbus - Italie.

- Workers Solidarity Action Network (**WSAN**) - Etats-Unis.
- United Voices of the World (**UVW**) - Grande-Bretagne.
- Unidos pra Lutar - Brésil.
- Corriente Político Social Sindical 1° de Mayo de Buenos Aires – Argentine.
- Coordinamento Nazionale Unitario Pensionati di oggi e di domani (**CONUP**) – Italie.
- National Association of Human Rights Defenders – Palestine.
- Red de Trabajadores – Argentine.