

Solidarity Statement - We are all 'persons of interest'

We, the October 15th Solidarity Group from Wellington, send our unconditional love and solidarity to the activists who are faced by the brutal repression of the state after the protests against the G20 summit in Melbourne in November 2006.

As far as we know, over 40 people have been arrested and more than 20 people involved in the protests have yet to be dealt with in the magistrates court. Activists are charged with a variety of charges including riot, affray, and criminal damage.

The criminalisation of resistance against capitalism is nothing new. However, it will not prevent us from taking actions in our own defence - it simply makes us understand that the law and the police are instruments of the rich and powerful to use against the poor and powerless.

Our love and solidarity goes out to Akin Sari who will spend the next 14 months in jail for his actions against the G20 summit. [Note: Akin was sentenced to 28 months imprisonment, 14 months minimum non-parole; taking into account the seven months he had already spent in custody, this means he could be released after another seven - afterg20 webmanager]

Our group formed in the aftermath of the nationwide raids and arrests in Aotearoa on 15th October 2007. The group was set up to support the prisoners, to bring the community together and to organise demonstrations against the raids. We want all charges against the activists arrested in the raids dropped and the Terrorism Suppression Act repealed. We support Te Manamotuhake o Tuhoe and Tino Rangatiratanga. For more information: www.October15thSolidarity.info

Unconditional love
Unconditional solidarity
Unconditional freedom

Wellington, 25th March 2008