



**Solidaridad**

**DEFEND TRADE  
UNION RIGHTS IN MEXICO**

**Rally at Mexican Consulate  
Vancouver - Harbour Green Park  
West Cordova & Bute  
Thursday, February 17th - 10:30am**

**GLOBAL  
DAYS OF ACTION**  
14-19 FEBRUARY 2011

On February 19, 2006 an explosion at Grupo México's Pasta de Conchos coal mine killed 65 miners. Almost five years later, the bodies of 63 of the 65 miners that died remain buried and the Mexican government has failed to investigate or prosecute those responsible.

Since 2006 the Mexican government has escalated its illegal and violent attacks on the Mexican Miners' Union, after it demanded justice for the "industrial homicide" at Pasta de Conchos and the recovery of the miners' bodies.

The Mexican Miners' Union is not alone. The few other genuinely independent trade unions seeking to improve the lives of Mexican workers have also found themselves increasingly under fire.

The Mexican Electrical Workers' Union (SME), the UNTyPP union representing workers in Mexico's state-owned petroleum company PEMEX, the National Union of General Tyre Workers of Mexico (SNTGTM) and the Mexican Telephone Workers' Union (STRM) among others have all faced violent attacks, intimidation and repression of trade union rights.

## **THE CONTINUED VIOLATIONS OF THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION BY THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT MUST STOP.**

Trade unions from around the world call on the Mexican government to:

- 1. HOLD EMPLOYER AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE PASTA DE CONCHOS MINE EXPLOSION THAT KILLED 65 MINERS ON FEBRUARY 19, 2006.**
- 2. ABOLISH SYSTEMIC VIOLATIONS OF WORKERS' FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION, INCLUDING EMPLOYER-DOMINATED "PROTECTION CONTRACTS" AND INTERFERENCE IN UNION ELECTIONS.**
- 3. END THE USE OF FORCE—BY THE STATE OR PRIVATE PARTIES—TO REPRESS WORKERS' LEGITIMATE DEMANDS FOR DEMOCRATIC UNIONS, BETTER WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS, AND GOOD HEALTH AND SAFETY CONDITIONS.**
- 4. END THE CAMPAIGN OF POLITICAL PERSECUTION AGAINST THE MEXICAN MINERS' UNION AND THE MEXICAN ELECTRICAL WORKERS' UNION.**

- ➔ [www.imfmetal.org/mexico2011](http://www.imfmetal.org/mexico2011)**
- ➔ [www.icem.org/en/5-Mining-DGOJP](http://www.icem.org/en/5-Mining-DGOJP)**
- ➔ [www.uniglobalunion.org/MexicoAction](http://www.uniglobalunion.org/MexicoAction)**

