

# 79TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



WE DEMAND DIGNIFIED  
WORKING AND LIVING  
CONDITIONS



## Thousands of workers rally Across South Africa to mark the World Federation of Trade Unions 79th anniversary

Workers across **South Africa** gathered in their thousands to commemorate the anniversary of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), a class-oriented trade unions federation dedicated to advancing workers' rights. Organized by NEHAWU, POPCRU and other affiliates of COSATU, these nationwide protests aimed to highlight demands for dignified working and living conditions, significant wage increases, and the right to collective bargaining, which many believe is under attack.

### NEHAWU CELEBRATIONS

- **Eastern Cape** : King Sabata
- **Gauteng** : Premier's Office
- **KZN** : All regions
- **Mpumalanga** : All regions

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Contact - Head of International

Comrade Lucian Segami

[www.nehawu.org.za](http://www.nehawu.org.za)





# 79TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 2024 IN NEHAWU PROVINCES



In **Gauteng** Province, demonstrators marched to the Premier's office, submitting a memorandum that called for improvements in health infrastructure, building maintenance, and an end to planned worker retrenchments. Several workplace demonstrations and seminars were also held in the province of **Kwazulu Natal**, including at Uthukela Health District, the Department of Employment and Labour in Durban, and hospitals in Pietermaritzburg.



In **Mpumalanga**, NEHAWU and COSATU led similar protests, with gatherings at Riverside Government Complex, Evander Hospital, and other key sites. Workers demanded permanent employment for temporary staff, a 35-hour workweek, improved health and safety standards, and universal healthcare and social security systems, particularly for the most vulnerable populations.



In Umtata, the **Eastern Cape** province, King Sabata Dalindyebo Region, the General Secretary of NEHAWU addressed a packed hall and delivered a memorial lecture marking the 78th Anniversary.

The WFTU expressed solidarity with South African workers, vowing to continue the fight for better working conditions and protections across all sectors.

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# KING SABATA DALINDYEBO WFTU INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION LECTURE

**WFTU PRESIDENT - CDE MZWANDILE MAKWAYIBA  
AND NEHAWU GS CDE ZOLA SAPHETHA**

The General Secretary Comrade Zola Saphetha addressed a WFTU lecture in Umtata on the occasion of its 79th anniversary. He underlined that since October 2023, Israel bombarded Gaza and the West Bank, leading to the deaths of over 44,000 Palestinians, including 16,000 children, with 10,000 people reported missing. Israeli actions have drawn widespread condemnation. Iran also launched missile strikes against Israel to avenge the deaths of key leaders from Hezbollah, Hamas, and Iran. Comrade Zola stressed the importance of ending all wars including in Sudan, DRC, Mozambique, Ukraine and that the WFTU marks its 79th anniversary by calling for peace, social progress, and an end to imperialist aggression. The “WFTU remains committed to fighting for workers’ rights, dignified living conditions, and the redistribution of wealth to benefit the working class globally”, he said.



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# RED WALL OF IMPACT - WORKERS OF THE WORLD, UNITE!







# 79TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 2024



## **SACP statement on the 79th anniversary of the World Federation of Trade Unions**

Thursday, 3 October 2024: The South African Communist Party (SACP) joins the working-class across the world in celebrating the 79th anniversary of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU).

Since its founding in its First World Trade Union Congress in Paris from 3 to 8 October 1945, the WFTU rooted itself in revolutionary working-class internationalism and never abandoned these roots.

## **National strike action**

In taking the above demands forward, the SACP will participate in the Section 77 nationwide strike action on 7 October 2024 led by the Congress of South African Trade Unions, Cosatu.

## **Red October Campaign 2024–2025**

On Sunday, 6 October 2024, the SACP will launch the Red October Campaign 2024–2025 under the theme, “Tackle the cost-of-living crisis. Implement the NHI now”, underpinned by the theme “Together, let’s forge a popular left front and build a powerful, socialist movement of the workers and poor”.



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# — WFTU Declaration on the — **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION OF WFTU**

## 03 October 2024



The World Federation of Trade Unions on the 3rd of October every year celebrates the historic anniversary of its founding as it deserves, with international mobilization through its declaration as an International Action Day. On this extraordinary occasion of its 79th anniversary that marks the entry of our Federation into its 80th year of existence and struggle, the working class all over the world, the militant and class-oriented trade unions, should honor this day with militant and massive activities in all continents and regions.

We firmly believe that the social progress and the goals of the labor movement can only be achieved through class struggles and organized militant demands. Especially in a period where all over the globe, employers are attacking wages, pensions, social security, and even the right to strike. However, the proud and unbound working-class resists and fights, with the WFTU members leading the most admirable and militant struggles. These struggles aim to meet the contemporary needs of workers at all levels, ensuring dignified work, wages, and living conditions. It has been historically proven that the workers' achievements and the concessions that employers and bourgeois governments are compelled to make, are victories already secured by workers and their unions through class unity, solidarity, and collective action at the grassroots level in workplaces.

At the same time, amidst the consecutive crises of capitalism and fierce

competition among imperialist centers for new markets, our strongest weapons are struggle, internationalism, and solidarity both with the workers' struggles against capitalist barbarity and peoples' struggles against imperialist aggression and interventions.

In an era where scientific and technological advancements continually enhance labor productivity, it is socially unjust to allocate the produced wealth merely for the satisfaction of the capitalist endless bulimia for profits. In this direction, they do not hesitate to promote war and channel even more resources into military expenditures. The WFTU firmly fights for the use of the productive capabilities of society in improving the working conditions of all workers globally.

It is obvious that the objective prerequisites for the improving of working and living conditions with fewer working hours, better wages, universal access to public and quality systems of healthcare, education and social security, dignified healthy and safe environment of work and life that foster cultural, humanitarian, and environmental progress are there.

Today there are all the productive, scientific and technological conditions (such as AI) for a decent life, a job with rights. The working class produces wealth. Our sweat and toil are reaped by a handful of business groups. This can be changed to meet the needs of the working class.

The World Federation of Trade Unions,

throughout its 79-years course of relentless contribution, has consistently being in the forefront of radical demands and militant struggles for the benefit of workers worldwide. Today, the WFTU remaining in line with its history and strictly adhering to its principles and orientation, advocates the justified, realistic, mature and achievable demand of a 35-hour workweek without any wage reduction.

The WFTU calls upon the class-oriented and militant trade unions all over the world to honor its 79th anniversary with the organizing of mass and militant activities with the banners of our Federation under the slogan:

**We Demand Dignified Working and Living Conditions:**

- Significant Wage Increases
- Stable Work with full rights
- 35 hours of work per week, 7 hours of work per day
- Health and safety in all workplaces
- Public and Universal systems of healthcare, education and social security
- Quality working and living environment

Let's properly honor the anniversary of the international class-oriented trade union movement, let's proudly wave once again the flag of the class struggle, meeting the expectations and the dreams of the workings. Let's once again turn the anniversary of the WFTU into and militant day of honor, dignity, and struggles.



**An injury to one is an injury to all**