

Solidarity for an Independent Poland
Częstochowa, 25–26 October 2018

Delegates to the 29th National Congress of NSZZ *Solidarność*— A Message to Working People

We, the delegates, gathered together at the 29th Session of the National Congress of the Independent Self-Governing Trade Union *Solidarność*, send our friendly greetings to working people and people of goodwill the world over, and we send expressions of solidarity to them and of particular concern for the quality of life of each working person.

Mindful of the significant role NSZZ *Solidarność* played in the fight for freedom and the earnest contributions it has made to the formation of free and independent trade unions in the oppressed countries of Eastern and Central Europe, we are fully aware of our responsibilities for the gift of freedom and the respect of human dignity and the decent living and working conditions to which each worker is entitled.

As a trade union rooted in the practical experiences of the fight for freedom, we feel obliged to continue to play a responsible, leading role as the guarantor of social relations that will maintain the well-being of every individual in the context of contemporary employment relationships and to ensure the codification of labor law. We wish to execute this duty, alongside other communities of workers, particularly in all places where the priority of welfare is being violated by various political and economic abuses.

Solidarność has a vital role in this mutual pursuit as is understood in the Bible: “Carry one another’s burdens” (Galatians 6:2). This principle, above all others, offers the possibility of showing respect for social justice, mutual understanding, and compassion, which is an expression of our responsibility for another human beings.

Solidarity among humans, the union of hearts, minds, and effort remains crucial today to maintain the bonds among diverse labor communities that gather together and incorporate into trade unions and social movements peoples across all continents. These communities enable us to oppose current threats that are manifest in distinct areas of our social and economic lives in the globalized reality of today. Therefore, we are obliged to do our utmost to organize a cross-border, international trade union beginning with the formulation of a General Agreement on the Dignity of Work.

In this endeavor the role of free trade unions remains indispensable. They are—and always will be—the manifestation of our great concern, that of the people of *Solidarność*, for freedom, social justice, and the rights of working people.

It is with this message that we ask you, our dear fiends and members of trade unions and social movements, to share our idea with workers throughout the world.

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National Congress of NSZZ *Solidarność*

Chairman of the Congress Presidium

Tadeusz Majchrowicz