

August 27, 2025

Dear friends of the United Front,

The International Miners' Coordination has informed us about developments in the miners' struggle in Chiatura, Georgia.

They are asking us to raise international awareness of this struggle and to send letters of solidarity and protest on behalf of the miners!

What happened? Five miners working in the manganese mines in Chiatura, Georgia, were arrested in April (five months ago!) after going on strike together with their colleagues. After a long delay, their wages were paid in December 2024, but several hundred miners received text messages informing them that they would be laid off in March 2025 – an outrage and a blatant attack on the miners and the international labor movement! As a united front, we have already reported on this and organized solidarity.

Now the miners have been strung along for weeks: the court case dealing with their release is constantly being postponed. The current date is now next Wednesday, September 3.

As the United Front, we fully support this struggle of the miners and would like to call on the members and friends of the United Front to declare your solidarity with the miners.

You can send letters of protest to the International Miners' Coordination at ilia.lobjanidze@gmail.com and info@minersconference.org and find out more on the International Miners' Conference website:
<http://www.minersconference.org/index.php/en/>

We are currently in the final stages of organizing the Zimmerwald Conference 2.0, about which you will receive further information shortly. This must not prevent us from supporting this important struggle of the miners! The workers' and miners' movement is an important part of the peace movement, as it has proven many times throughout history. For example, during the strike and armed struggle of the (mining) workers in the Ruhr region of Germany in 1920 against the fascist Kapp Putsch. In doing so, the workers prevented fascism from being introduced in Germany 13 years before Hitler!

Solidarity with the miners in Chiatura, Georgia!

For the immediate release of the imprisoned miners!

Long live international solidarity!

Solidarity greetings,

Monika Gärtner-Engel

Co-President United Front