

Free our comrades in Thailand

We have witnessed the harsh sentence of labour activist Somyot on 23 Jan 2013, to 11 years jail, under Article 112. We have witnessed the continued use of Article 112 to charge, sentence and imprison activists and civilians in Thailand. This is a sign that human rights and democracy in Thailand are worsening. A democratic country does not have political prisoners, and it does not use draconian laws to suppress freedom of expression.

We renew our call upon all comrades and friends in the labour movement worldwide to pledge their support for international working people's solidarity and for the continuing struggle for democracy in Thailand.

We will continue to make our voices heard until all political prisoners are free in Thailand.

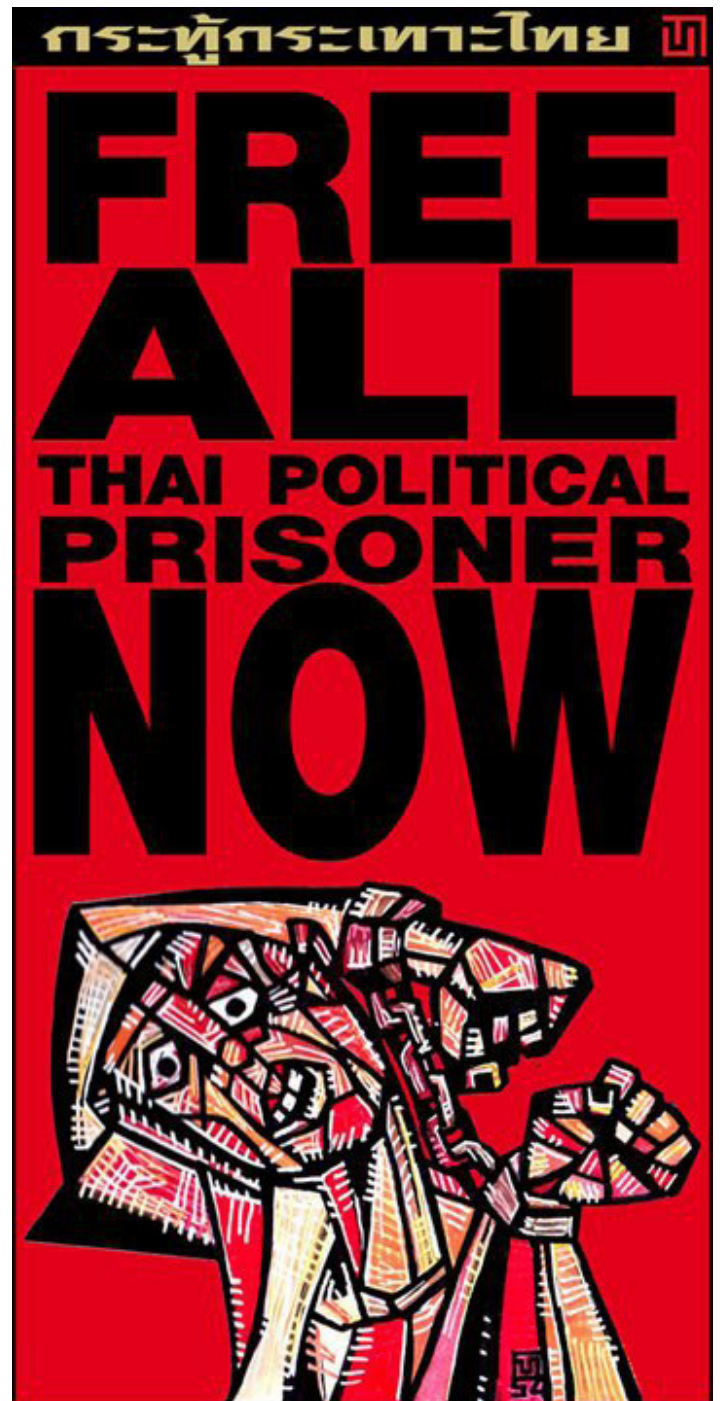
We pledge to use the occasion of the International Labour Day / May Day to:

- Demand the immediate release of Somyot
- Demand the immediate release of all political prisoners in Thailand
- Demand the abolition of Article 112 (The Lese Majeste law)

We ask the ACTU to take up these demands - by sending a delegation to Bangkok, to make direct representation to the government of Thailand, and to visit Somyot in prison. We also ask the ACTU to invite representatives of Global Union Federations to participate in this.

We say to Somyot, to the other political prisoners, and to our comrades and friends in Thailand: We are still with you and we will be continuing to struggle for your freedom and for the abolition of Article 112.

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