

## 29M: General Strike

Since October 29, we've had an open wound that will not begin to heal until those responsible are held accountable for their criminal negligence. The main person responsible is Carlos Mazón, who showed up too late on the day of the Cold Drop floods, wearing a red vest—the same one we've seen so many times turned upside down—and now claims he had nothing to do with the deaths, that it wasn't his responsibility. But the Valencian people know exactly who the top person responsible is.

Being the main one responsible doesn't mean he was the only one. Some business owners hid the situation from their workers, preventing them from checking their phones so they wouldn't leave their jobs, or even coercing them into going to work despite adverse weather conditions in some regions and extremely serious warnings in others. This posed a real, tangible threat to the lives and health of workers—tragically fatal in some cases and psychologically scarring in many others. We also want to highlight that there were commuting victims (in itinere) who have not been acknowledged by the Generalitat Valenciana.

On October 29 2024, we witnessed how climate change denial and unrestrained capitalism led to the dismissal of scientific warnings about rainfall and the state of rivers and ravines, prioritizing interests that have nothing to do with people or our well-being. If we received the same weather warnings tomorrow, the response would most likely be the same. In fact, we already saw it when the Cold Drop moved to the Castelló regions, under red alert—both the Generalitat and employers acted exactly the same way.

The reconstruction must be done under a different perspective so this doesn't happen again. Vox's climate denialism has found a spokesperson in Carlos Mazón, who's now clinging to power by any means. That's why we continue to demand his resignation, along with the resignation of his entire cabinet. This is the first step towards reparation for the victims.

At the same time, we denounce the fact that housing prices have already surpassed the peaks of the previous housing bubble. In some areas, rents have quadrupled over the past decade—increasing by nearly 250% on average. Evictions continue, and vulture funds are buying entire buildings to turn them into tourist apartments—including subsidized housing—without the administration exercising its right of pre-emption and repurchase, and even buying homes destroyed by the Cold Drop. On top of that, we demand immediate housing alternatives for the dozens of families living in extremely precarious conditions after the Cold Drop devastated their homes. Housing is not a business—it is a right for the working class.

If that weren't enough reason for a general strike, we also denounce the cuts to public services being carried out by the Valencian government in all sectors: healthcare, education, social services, and emergency services. The rights of the working class are not a priority for the PP, which has agreed to a budget that runs counter to what is needed. Public services should be strengthened so the Valencian Country is better prepared to face future disasters.

Instead of serving the common good, money is being handed to companies already convicted of corruption—money that should be directed to affected areas and people. These people should be leading a participatory reconstruction process aimed at transforming and strengthening our society—not repeating the same mistakes that brought us here.

Now, more than ever, we need union and social unity. We must all work as one: unions, the housing rights movement, local emergency and reconstruction committees, and above all, we must never leave the victims of the Cold Drop alone.

We demand:

- Criminal accountability for those responsible for the deaths of workers on the day of the Cold Drop due to work-related incidents—from the president of the Generalitat to the employers who failed to ensure the safety of their employees.
- Justice and reparation for all the victims, including permanent disability recognition and lifelong benefits for workers who request it and who lost a family member due to the Cold Drop.
- Reversal of privatizations, reinforcement of public services, and improved working conditions for public sector staff.
- Full 100% wage coverage for those affected by furloughs (ERTOs) caused by the Cold Drop.
- Creation of a paid leave without day-limit for situations involving weather alerts and/or flood risk.
- Reduction of the workweek to 32 hours or 4 days.
- Restoration of workers' purchasing power.
- Enforcement of housing rights through price controls on rents and sales, and the creation of a public rental housing stock.

To achieve these goals, we call on all of society—especially the working class and all unions—to support the general strike called for May 29 and to help organize and promote it in towns, districts, neighborhoods, and workplaces.

