

## **Statement by Christine Buchholz on planned protests against Egyptian President Mursi on June 30th 2013**

### **Solidarity with the movement »Tamarrud«!**

President Mursi won the presidential elections last year against Mubarak regime's rival candidate, Ahmed Shafik. Many Egyptians hoped then for a solution to their social problems. However, they were disappointed to find out that the fatal neoliberal economic policies of the old regime were continued. In order to consolidate his power Mursi has even sought an alliance with army generals – those same generals who owe their position to the old regime.

Last autumn the new president at first granted himself full powers and then attempted to choke the revolution. His failure to do so is owed solely to the resistance on the streets and in the workplaces. Yet the danger of an open counterrevolution remains. The threat comes from within, but has allies also outside Egypt.

Amongst its allies are the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. These institutions are not in the business of making gifts. Their credits are made contingent on a series of obligations, notably cuts in food subsidies and further privatisation of the economy. I support the resistance against these policies, which are aimed directly against the interests of the masses of the Egyptian workers and poor.

I feel great sympathy with the mass campaign »Tamarrud«, which unites Egyptians in common protest against the policies of the president. Now trade unionists, leftists and civil rights activists have called for renewed protests and strikes against President Mursi on June 30th. Their demands include increase of minimum wage, end to tenuous work contracts, nationalization of private companies and increase in subsidies for basic foods. I support these demands and wish the movement success.

Your struggle is our struggle. A victory in Cairo, Alexandria, Suez or Mahalla is at the same time a victory for the resistance in Athens, Madrid, Berlin or Istanbul.

Thaura thaura hatta an-Nasr!

Berlin, June 27, 2013

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