

# LABOURSTART CAMPAIGN VICTORIES

## 2019 & 2020

A leader in global news and online campaigning for the international trade union movement since 1998, LabourStart and its partner unions saw more campaign victories in 2019 & 2020. With over 187,000 emails sent from activists, individuals, and workers across 33 campaigns, here are some of the highlights of this past year.

### SOUTH KOREA JAN '19

LabourStart ran a campaign after the death of 24yo Kim Yong-gyun who was doing hazardous work alone in the dark, a violation of occupational safety rules. The government agreed to a series of measures including revisions of health and safety laws and better working conditions for subcontractors.

### JORDAN FEB-APR '19

The Jordanian government was considering amendments to the labour code that included keeping the limit of 1 union per sector in only 17 sectors. In a LabourStart win, the bill was taken off the calendar of the Senate to be amended. Regrettably, a similar measure was passed later that year.

### KAZAHSTAN AUG '19

Erlan Baltabay, leader of the oilworkers' union, was sentenced to 7 years and banned from union activities under false charges of misappropriating union funds. After a massive campaign, the president pardoned Baltabay from prison but kept a ban on union activities and a fine, which Baltabay refused to pay.

### SOUTH KOREA DEC '19

After sending thousands of emails to officials, the government backed away from weakening laws around safe rates for freight drivers despite lobbying from big corporations. Safe rates legislation provide a minimum wage system for freight drivers who are not protected by labour laws.

### INDONESIA DEC '19

Working in an heavy anti-union climate, trade unionist Rio Wijaya was brutally attacked by security guards before being arrested for false allegations of defamation and assault. After much campaigning, Wijaya was released after being wrongly imprisoned for 47 days.

### GERMANY FEB '20

A for-profit hospital group refused to negotiate with the union and fired 14 workers after a short-term strike while threatening more layoffs. In a huge victory for LabourStart and ver.di, management relented to negotiating over fair wages and reinstating the workers who went on strike.

### CAMBODIA MAY '20

Soy Sros, president of a local union, was arrested and imprisoned for 'provocation' after she made a Facebook post criticizing the suspension of union members during the COVID-19 pandemic. Strong campaigning led to her release after being detained without trial for nearly two months.