

MESSAGES OF SUPPORT



I'm sorry not to be with you tonight - but very pleased to send a message of strong support to Labour Against The Witchhunt and Marc personally. No one wants a party that tolerates abuse or racism. But that's not my experience of Labour meetings and I'm sure it's not yours. If there are allegations, let the evidence be brought, scrutinised in an open hearing in front of an impartial panel, with all sides heard, witnesses allowed to speak and a right to appeal. In other words, due process in accordance with natural justice.

That does not appear to have happened in Marc's case. The available information shows the evidence to be weak and the judgement faulty. Marc has an honourable record as a principled campaigner against racism and injustice. We should demand that his case be reopened.

Further, we cannot tolerate the abuse of the disciplinary procedure for political purposes, to remove good activists. The people who should face scrutiny are those MPs and their apologists who do their best to undermine Jeremy Corbyn's leadership, who supported the right wing policies of Blair, including his illegal war in Iraq, with the terrible consequences we see today.

The Labour Party is changing. Make certain the changes really happen. Working class people need a party that will re-order society so that all may live with security and dignity. To transform society we have also to transform the party – this struggle is part of that transformation.

**Solidarity,
Ken Loach**

Please accept my apologies that I can't be with you tonight, but I would like to express my support for and solidarity with Marc's campaign to clear his name.

I attended Marc's hearing and spoke on his behalf, which is why I know that the National Constitutional Committee's decision was inconsistent with the evidence before them.

As I said immediately after the outcome was announced, the decision has all the hallmarks of predetermination and tramples on the Labour Party's record of standing up for fairness. The NCC has besmirched the reputation of a veteran anti-racist campaigner and their decision cannot be allowed to stand.

Marc deserves the support of everyone who believes in natural justice, democracy and the progressive agenda that delivered two landslide leadership victories for Jeremy Corbyn, and Labour's biggest vote share increase since 1945.

As Martin Luther King Jr once said: "It is always the right time to do the right thing." And the right thing to do now is help Marc to right the terrible wrong that has been done to him.

**Best wishes,
Chris Williamson MP**

I stand with Marc Wadsworth. The Labour Party has - on the flimsiest of pretexts - expelled him from the Labour Party.

Marc is a veteran activist and anti-racist campaigner. He contributed to the Party through the Black Sections, co-founded the Anti-Racist Alliance, fought against the National Front and the BNP, was a leading supporter of the Stephen Lawrence Campaign: the list of his achievements in the field of fighting for racial equality and justice goes on and on.

And this is the man the Labour Party dares to say has “brought the party into disrepute”! The Party should walk over broken glass to beg people of Marc’s calibre to work with them - they are very few and Marc is one of the best. There is a battle going on to destroy and reverse the unexpected and amazing gains the left has made in the last three years. Marc is a casualty in that battle and I am joining the fight to see him re-instated to the front line.

I never believed we would see the prospect of a socialist Labour Party taking power in this country and the right, with their allies in the Israel Lobby, is doing everything it can to stop that. Marc has been victimised by them and that can't be allowed to stand. Everyone on the Left - whether in or out of the Labour Party - needs to back Marc in this struggle.

Thank God I'm not in the Labour Party so I can say that all the Ruth Smeeths and Wes Streetings who are trying to destroy the prospect of a Socialist Labour Party taking power in Britain can fucking fuck off: I'm backing Marc Wadsworth!

Alexei Sayle

JOIN LABOUR AGAINST THE WITCHHUNT!

LAW's sponsors include:

- Michael Mansfield QC
- Alexei Sayle, comedian
- Professor Moshé Machover, Israeli socialist
- Ian Hodson, president of the Bakers Union
- Ken Loach, film director
- Noam Chomsky, author and activist

Our founding principles

1. We demand the Labour Party ends the practice of automatic, instant, expulsion or suspension of Labour Party members;
2. We demand that the Labour Party rejects the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism, which in its list of examples conflates anti-Semitism with anti-Zionism and support for the rights of the Palestinian people.
3. We demand the immediate abolition of the Labour Party's “Compliance Unit”. Disciplinary decisions should be taken only by elected bodies, not by paid officials. The first part of rule 2.1.4.B (‘Exclusions’) should be abolished: it bars from Labour Party membership anybody who “joins and/or supports a political organisation other than an official Labour group or other unit of the party” and has exclusively been used against left-wingers.

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