



International Dockworkers Council

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Statement from the International Dockworkers Council (IDC)

Charleston, United States – June 2025

The International Dockworkers Council (IDC), representing thousands of dockworkers around the globe, is gathered this week in Charleston to mark two historic milestones: the 25th anniversary of the struggle of the Charleston 5, and 25 years since the founding of our fighting organization — the IDC.

In this spirit of resistance and unity, we declare our uncompromising support for the dockworkers of Australia as they confront yet another corporate attack — DP World's attempt to impose automation in Australian ports. This is not innovation — it is union-busting by machine. It is an assault on decent jobs, on communities, and on working-class power.

As we gather on this symbolic ground, dockworker organizations from Europe, the United States, Latin America, and Australia have met, debated, and forged a common global strategy to support our Australian comrades. This support will not be symbolic. It will be organized, militant, and ongoing.

We will stand together on picket lines, blockades, and in the global public arena. We will not allow corporations to divide us by geography or weaken us through technological imposition without agreement.

As part of this coordinated response, we announce the launch of an international anti-automation conference to take place before the end of 2025. This conference will consolidate our global resistance and reaffirm a message that must be heard loud and clear:



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No automation without union consent. No job cuts disguised as progress. We reject automation under the guise of safety. Real progress means investing in people — not replacing them with machines. Because automation, when imposed, harms our communities and weakens the social fabric.

An injury to one is an injury to all.

The IDC was born out of struggle — and we remain ready for the battles to come.

From Charleston to Sydney: Dockworkers united will never be defeated.

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