

# The World Social Forum Day of Actions in Russia

Saturday 26 January 2008, by [Collective / Multiple signers](#) (Date first published: 26 January 2008).

## History of the preparation

Institute for Collective Action appeals for a day of protest on January 26<sup>th</sup>

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of January protest actions will take place all around the world under the initiative of the World Social Forum - under the traditional slogan "Another world is possible". In the frames of this day Union of Coordinating Councils of Russia is going to organize protest actions under the slogan "For civil rights and social justice" and invites all social, civil nets and political oppositions for participation.

*1) Appeal for energization and integration from Karin Kleman, head of the Institute of Collective Actions (08.12.2007) with presentation of the project of the Union of Coordinating Councils of Russia (UCC).*

## About the sense of world solidarity.

New international movement appeared in the world in 1999 - "antiglobalist" or "alterglobalist". It is the net union of social movements and civil initiatives of different countries, struggling in different spheres (housing, labor, educational, ecological, civil, and remedial) for liberation people from dictates of the capitalist globalization. All these movements and initiatives have different political views and methods, but all of them unite under the common slogan "Another world is possible!" The common ideas are as follows. There are millions of us - oppressed, exploitable, and deceived - all around the world. Everyone separately in his block, town, country, movement - can't influence the whole world course of the reach countries governments and large business structures. But when we are together we are strong. And we will show our strength on the 26th of January during the universal day of common actions. "Antiglobalist" movement participants are not extremists and pogrom-makers but ordinary workers, pensioners, students, peasants, who refuse to live in the world where instead of justice impudence of oligarchy and market economy dictates reign, where instead of human values principle "man is an article of trade". This is the mass movement, the volumes of which Russia has never seen before. Almost tens of thousands of people, activists from different countries, assemble to the international social forums. To some demonstrations (e.g. in Genoa in July, 2001 or in Florence in November, 2002) - up to the million! {{Why is it necessary for Russia?}} First of all it is exemplary in the view of mass character and solidarity between people of different countries and different specific interests. Secondly it is a unique chance for Russian movements to leave the isolation. Many members of native initiative groups, trade unions, human rights organizations rely on the international help. Let's help ourselves, them to reach more or less just world! Thirdly, all problems against which we fight here in Russia have common roots with capitalist globalization, which is attacking all around the world. Small

salaries? It is the result of international competition and large capitals dictates. Tightening building up, eviction, rise of taxes for housing and communal services? It is the common world politics of land privatization, speculation and impudence of the construction building. Corruption? Man can be bought and sold. Forest felling? Everything in the world must bring money. Education for money and beyond the reach? It is the capitalist logic according to which only solvent citizenry have got any rights (or rather they buy them).

If you don't want to live in the world where social injustice reigns take part in the 26<sup>th</sup> January actions. Show to the world that there active and thinking citizenry in Russia who resist antisocial course of the authorities and business! Demonstrate yourself and all of us that man is not an article of trade!

**January, 26<sup>th</sup> - the Day of common actions "For civil rights and social justice". Russian social movements are going to participate in the international Day of common actions for civil rights and social justice. At the call of the World Social Forum protest actions will take place all around the world on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January - under the traditional slogan "Another world is possible".**

Actions will be organized by social, trade union and human rights movements and will take place at one day for the vivid demonstration of solidarity of people from different countries, struggling for the fair world order and against the capitalist globalization. In the frames of this day several Russian nets and social organizations are preparing different initiatives. In particular, the Union of Coordinating Councils of Russia (UCC) is going to carry out the protest actions in almost 20 countries.

For the preparation of the action the UCC is publishing the newspaper holding the information about the antisocial politics of the authorities and about the way how to protect your rights and struggle for social justice. The UCC invites all the other nets and movements (human rights, trade union, housing, ecological, educational) to participate in the preparation of the newspaper and protest actions carrying out.

Information about the sense of the international campaign and about the actions in other countries see <http://www.wsf2008.net>

### **About the "Ideology" of actions in Russia (proposal of the UCC).**

We suggest lying stress on the street actions. To secure the mass character of the action and the breadth of representation we should try to unite to the maximum all the oppositional civil initiatives.

The idea of action - the previous Duma, where "United Russia" had the majority, passed a wealth of antisocial and antidemocratical laws (every initiative can voice its own list of disagreements). Having got the majority in the new Duma (with the help of unexampled pressure and garbling) they intend to continue their course. But we say "Enough!" And for this we are ready to go out together.

*Central contact for the campaign in Russia :*

+7-916-160-54-76 (Carine : Russian, French, a little English)

2) Publication and distribution (under the form of pickets) of newspapers (100.000) in 25 Russian regions :

[http://ikd.ru/files/izvestiya\\_sovetov\\_yanv.pdf](http://ikd.ru/files/izvestiya_sovetov_yanv.pdf)

3) Organization of actions: most of them are organized by regional coalitions belonging to Union of

Coordinating Councils of Russia (UCC), with the participation at a local level of other social and political organizations.

### **Announcement of actions in Russia:**

#### **In Moscow:**

On 26 January at 13.00 on the Slavianski ploshad will take place a meeting of citizens. Main participants: Council of initiative-taking groups against demolitions and "savage" constructions, movement "Housing solidarity", movement of the "duped co-investors" against the property pyramids and government corruption, the representatives of free trade unions. Meeting of solidarity in defense of social rights and civil liberties.

Contact: 8-926-526-60-09, 8-916-160-54-76

More details: Акция 26-го января в Москве состоится на Славянской площади

#### **In Moscow region:**

By the coordination council of the citizen protest committees and the movement of inhabitants from the hostels are organized collective actions in several towns:

- Solnechnogorsk - meeting on ul.Sovetskaya, in monument Lenin 26.01.08. at 12.00
- Korolev - meeting in DK im. Kalinin 26.01.08. at 12.00
- Lytkarino - meeting over the area in DK "Mir" 26.01.08. at 15.00
- Odintsov - meeting on stadium 02.02.08. at 12.00
- Pushkin - picket in cinema "Pobeda" 26.01.08. at 12.00

Mostly against ultra-liberal housing reform and rate increases

Contact: 8-903-770-78-97

#### **In Saint Petersburg:**

Meeting will take place on 26 January from 12 till 15 on area between ul. Komsomol and monument to Lenin in Finnish station. Organization committee accentuates attention in what strengthening solidarity and collaboration between human rights associations, social, trade-union; housing inhabitants committees and other public organizations, which act in Saint Petersburg, is basic of the ideas of conducting action in the city.

At the present time about the entry into the St. Petersburg organization committee of the action on 26 January have stated the following organizations (negotiations with other organizations, including with the trade unions) still continue:

Advance guard of red young people (AKM), "Alternative", the association of libertarian initiatives, the movement of civil initiatives, DSPA, OO "living city", the committee of united actions in defense of the social-working rights of citizens, OO "reliable house", ROO "okhtinskaya arc", council of the initiative-taking groups of duped co-investors of Saint Petersburg, OD "Education for all", Russian social-democratic union of young people, the federation of socialist young people ".

Contact: Yevgeny Kozlov (8-911-923-39-47), Vladimir Soloveychik (8-950-012-14-49).

More about the action in Peterburg: World day of united actions on 26 January in Saint Petersburg

### ***In Omsk:***

In Omsk on 26 January at 13.00 will take place the meeting on Ploshad Lenin (this the center of city), and then procession to the monument to the victims of political repressions. Organizers of the meeting: Omsk trade union SKT, committee on the defense of human rights.

Main themes: right of housing for children from orphan's home, inhabitants from the hostels, defense of working rights and political liberties.

Contact: 8-905-096-74-93

### ***In Yaroslavl':***

On 26 January into 13.00 on Ploshad Volkov it takes place the "chain of housing solidarity". Organizers - SotsSopr (left wing young group, Zhilsolidarnost' (housing coalition), the local section of the Communist party.

Contact: 8 915 970 44 93

### ***In Perm':***

On 26 January there will be demo and meeting. Theme - against increase in prices and flat rates.

Organizer: Coordination council of protest actions.

Demo at 14:00 on the central lane of the Komsomol prospect between ul.Kirova and ul.Bol'shevitskoy. Meeting front of the building of regional Duma (Lenin, 51) at 15:00.

Contact: 8-908-261-96-20, 8-902-646-04-51

### ***In Yuzhno Sakhalinsk:***

On 26 January will be united meeting of social movements and oppositional parties. Participate in the temporary coalition and its organization committee five organizations: public associations "civil liability", Sakhalin human rights center, the movements of pensioners "conscience", the Communist party and the movement of car drivers.

Telephones for information: 62-18-41 (Mark Alexandrovich Cooperman); 433655 (Rukavishnikova Tatiana Nikolaevna). The local government is trying to prohibit the action.

For more detail, see: United day of actions on 26 January: the announcement of action in Yuzhno Sakhalinsk. On the problem of the crude violations of the social rights of the northerners

### ***In Irkutsk:***

For purposes of the preparation for conducting the meeting on 26 January, are organized pickets on 20, 21 and 24 January in Irkutsk. The purposes of conducting pickets - to give information to the citizens of the city about the fact that in 20 Russian regions, and so in Irkutsk on 26 January will take place actions among the international day of united actions, under the slogan "for civil liberties and social justice".

Decision about the joint participation in the meeting is made by the local section of the communist party and by several social organizations, at the first place coordination inhabitants initiatives groups. Meeting will take place on the area in front of the stadium "Trud", on 26 January 2008. at 14-00.

Telephone of the coordinator of organization committee for the preparation for meeting 35-05-07.

More detail about the action: The public organizations of Irkutsk issue a call to participate in the united day of protest actions on 26 January

### **In Novosibirsk:**

Meeting announced over the central ploshad im. Lenin on 26 January at 12.00 under the initiative of the committee of solidarity actions. To the participation they invited the regional section of the communist party and Fair party. Thus far reaction is positive. There also will be round table with the participation of social movements of the region on 23 January.

Contact: 8-923-244-66-48

### **In Izhevsk:**

On 26 January at 11.00 coordination council of protest actions will carry out an united conference of regional social movements and oppositional parties, at which will be decided the strategy for further actions. In particular, the collection of signatures under the petition to regional government will be begun. Thus, will be given start to the new stage of the regional protest campaign, one of main moments of which will be a mass meeting on 2 February. Meeting - on 2 February, into 12.00, in the central area of Izhevsk opposite the Government House of Udmurt republic.

Contact: 8-922-685-01-66

### **In Kurgan:**

On 26 January, from 11.00 to 13.00, will take place massive picket on Ploshad Lenin. As organizer appears free trade union "Zachita truda"- Kurgan.

In Astrakhan:

On 28 January will take place a public conference of the activists of the local Union of inhabitants (with the help of the local Fair party), at which will be discussed strategy of further actions, including the necessity to fight for the defense of the right to direct self-management of their building by inhabitants.

Contact: 8-905-481-91-80

### **In Nizhniy Novgorod:**

Meeting in pl.Lenina at 12.00. We give text of the action:

"all more frequent than local government permit building directly in the courts, in the parks. They are not considered the opinion of inhabitants, because inhabitants act without enough solidarity.

We need united collective actions!

United meeting is organized by protest groups of inhabitants, who suffer from "savage" building - of ul.Shishkova, Oranhereinaya, ul.Kovalikhinskaya - they decided to together come out against the building in the courts! We issue a call all inhabitants to express solidarity and to conduct the day of united actions! On 26 January takes place meeting. You come, until building arrives at you into the court!

No to "savage" building in N.Novgorod!

Let us obtain respect of our rights!"

Contact: 8 908 156 28 89

### **In Penza:**

On 26 January at 11.00 will take place meeting on the Ploshad Sovietskaya. Organizers are local Communists and human rights activists. Contact: 8-902-209-14-46

### **In Saratov:**

Two meetings will take place on 26 January. The first action is organized by the local section of the communist party at 11.00 over the area in front of the Circus. The second meeting will take place at 12.00 over Chernishevsky's Ploshad. It's organized by the local coalition "people housing forum" with the possible participation of activists from party "Iabloko" and journalists, who fight for the freedom of word.

Contact: 262-654

### **In Kaliningrad:**

Most likely takes place gathering inhabitants of the Condominium "Soglasie -2" (city block of Sel'ma) against the illegal attempts of the local authorities to take control of their building. The main call will be: for a real housing self-management!

Contact: 8-906-236-22-91

### **In Tyumen' Oblast:**

On 26 January will take place meetings in Tyumen' and Ishime. Beginning at 12.00

On 27 January will take place meeting in Surgut. Beginning at 12.00

Organizers: Committee of solidarity actions, worker communist party RKRP and the free trade unions (against repressions in the oil companies).

Contact: 8-908-874-98-56

More details about this: "for the civil liberties and social justice": the announcement of actions in Surgut and Tyumen' Oblast

### **In Kirov:**

Difficult negotiations are conducting about the agreement for the meeting with the local authorities. Organizers invite people at 11.00 at the central entrance of the regional government building. It's supposed to be a massive and non-authorized action.

Organizers: Coordination council of protest actions, the council of hostels inhabitants, communist workers' party RKRP, the council of workers and peasants.

Contact: 8-919-502-91-41

### **In Kazan:**

Organizer of protest action - human rights agency "Karabin - Kazan' working inspection". They will

be joined to the action by: Workers movement RT, Kazan' young communist organization SKM, duped co-investors (possibly), political organizations "Working Russia" and AKM of Kazan, anarchists from "Autonomous action", the Tatar public center im. Mulyukova, some structures of Communist party and the committee of the protection of the earth of gardening comradeship "veteran". Contact: Vladislav gudaviya (com161 rambler.ru)

It's a planed action, not confirmed

### **In Ul'yanovsk:**

Organizer of the action: the "independent student trade union" of Ul'yanovsk state university.

Themes of the action: thee problem of forced military service and the problem of the low quality of formation (set of the components: the low wage of teachers, the poor state of libraries and mediatec, the idleness of official trade-union organization, the poor organization of training process, application of the Bologna agreement, problem with the realization of law "about the autonomous establishments" and so forth and many others). Both themes are most urgent at the given moment.

Contact: kvk ok.kz

### **In Barnaul:**

On 26 January in Barnaul will take place meeting organized by the local section of the Communist party with the participation of the association of owners and leaseholders of dwelling "Fortress" and the union of the social organizations of Altai region. Meeting will take place near the regional library im. Chichkova at 12.00.

Contact: 8-9021410251

### **In Ingushetia:**

Although very severe resistance from the side of local authorities (which forbade the action and threatened the organizers) are making it difficult, on 26 January will take place a unified meeting of opposition forces in Nazran. Action will begin into 10.00 over the area "Soglasie". Citizens of Ingushetia are intended to express their protest against proceeding in the republic alarming events (murder and hostage taking, arbitrariness of the police, the large-scale corruption of the officials of different levels, the increase in good's prices). Contact: 8-928-797-00-28; site <http://www.ingushetiya.ru/>

### **The Chechen republic**

On 26 January organization "will save generation" (leader Zarem Sadulayeva) carries out the collection of signatures under a petition to Deputies of the State Duma RF about the adoption of law on the inhabitants of the Chechen republic, who became invalids at the childhood as a result of military actions.

Such people in republic are thousands. Now they are in an extremely difficult situation. Pension from 1000 to 3000 rubles is not capable of ensuring them worthy life. Children are deprived of the possibility to attend school because the schools don't provide conditions for this. Invalids cannot find work, they cannot independently make purchases, even visit of polyclinic is for them a serious problem. For many the mine-explosive or fragmentation injury, obtained in the childhood, deprived them from future.

No compensations in respect of an accident, in contrast to the victims of terrorist acts, these invalids

obtain. They do not obtain those privileges, which have soldiers, who received injuries in the course of military actions. They are placed in the category of the invalids of childhood or invalids on the general disease.

Only State Duma RF can change law about the invalids, so that the state would take upon itself responsibility and would appear to be really concern by the innocent victims of war.

Action will take place at the office of the committee of young people CHR. Will attend approximately hundred people. At this meeting the text will be signed by those being present and it will then pass further collection of signatures.

In Russia actions must also take place in Barnaul and Samara. Information about them will come soon.