



**Workers' Liberty**  
[www.workersliberty.org](http://www.workersliberty.org)  
[awl@workersliberty.org](mailto:awl@workersliberty.org)

# SUPPORT JEREMY CORBYN FOR LABOUR LEADER

## Fight for a working class political voice

**J**eremy Corbyn, the MP for Islington North in London, is standing for leader of the Labour Party in the election running 14 August-10 September. That's very good news.

Corbyn is the only candidate to depart from the "New Labour" consensus of cuts, pandering to the rich and bullying migrants. He advocates left-wing, pro-working class policies and has a real record of supporting working-class struggles. He stands for democracy in the Labour Party. Whatever the outcome of the election, a strong Corbyn vote will put pressure on the Labour leaders to oppose the Tories. It will be a vote to battle against cuts, to defend trade union rights, and to make solidarity with migrants.

### What you can do

- **Sign people up.** Every socialist, trade unionist or left-wing campaigner can campaign in her or his workplace, local community, circles of friends to sign up as many people as possible to vote in the leadership election. They can do that by registering as "supporters" (free if you're a member of an affiliated union, £3 otherwise) or by signing up as a party member (cheap rates if you're young, or in an affiliated union, or working part-time).

- **Win union and Labour Party support.** The number of members that affiliated unions sign up as now as "supporters" may be very important for their future weight in the Labour Party. And demanding that our unions nominate Corbyn and energetically

sign up members to support him can help us challenge the combination of leftish rhetoric but lack of fight displayed consistently by most of our union leaders – including lack of fight in the Labour Party. Already activists have won support for Corbyn in Labour's biggest affiliate, Unite, as well as the Bakers' Union and ASLEF, and non-affiliated unions FBU and RMT. We should fight for all trade unions to support and actively promote the campaign.

Labour Party members should go and get their local parties to support the campaign before things slow down for the summer.

- **Set up or join networks.** "Railworkers for Corbyn", "Teachers for Corbyn", "Students for Corbyn"... there are many possibilities!

- **Build local groups.** In every area, we can join or set up a local vote-Corbyn network, offer speakers, information, etc, to local union branches and community groups, and organise public activity.

If we combine this work with serious political debate, the socialist left may be able to emerge from the campaign bigger, more confident, more embedded in the labour movement, and clearer about what to do next. That's what we should aim for.

### The Corbyn campaign and working-class politics

To build something more lasting out of the campaign, we need to build a much stronger left in the labour movement and in society –

and that left will require politics different not only from the Labour leadership's, but from the Corbyn campaign's too.

The employers who run our society are highly conscious and organised as a *class*. We need to renew, strengthen and transform workers' organisations *in order to help workers act as a class too*. That is how big changes were won in the past; that is how we can push back the bosses and the Tories now, and start challenging the shift of politics to the right. Against the power of the exploiting class, we should aim for the strongest and most responsive organisation of the exploited.

Opposing the Tories' attacks, austerity and so on is vital – but not enough. If we don't formulate and push our own socialist “big ideas”, we will be held back and undermined, even in defensive struggles, by the influence of “big ideas” promoted every day by the ruling class. We propose:

- Not just cracking down on tax evasion, slightly higher taxes, etc, but a comprehensive program of taking wealth from the rich to pay for the jobs, services, housing and environmental sustainability we need. Expropriation and social ownership of the banking system and high finance.
- Social ownership of industry, and workers' control.
- A fight to build a clear, sharp working-class voice in politics, and the goal of a workers' government.
- Consistent international workers' solidarity, not “my enemy's enemy is my friend”.
- To fight for any of this, we need a serious struggle to transform the labour movement, aiming to challenge and overturn the bureaucracy of our trade unions, who have hindered even defence against the Tories.

We want to promote class-struggle, socialist ideas in a bold, clear, consistent way. Only on that basis can we build up a force capable of challenging capitalism. Too often Corbyn puts forward only fairly minimal, populist demands, and too often he semi-justifies reactionary, oppressive forces internationally like Hamas or Hesbollah on the basis of their anti-Americanism (as,

sadly, many on the left do). He promotes roughly the politics of the *Morning Star* newspaper produced by the Stalinist Communist Party of Britain and close to sections of the union bureaucracy – a long way from clear working-class socialism.

As part of using the campaign to strengthen the left, we invite Corbyn supporters to discuss these ideas with us.

(For more on Jeremy Corbyn's politics, see “For Corbyn, and for better politics” at [www.workersliberty.org/node/25337](http://www.workersliberty.org/node/25337).)

## **Back Corbyn! Renew the labour movement!**

Jeremy Corbyn's campaign is an opportunity to renew and strengthen the labour movement and the socialist left. Every socialist and class-struggle militant should throw themselves into building it.

We should campaign for local labour movement conferences to discuss the way forward for the movement, our demands and what we're going to do about them.

## **Workers' Liberty**

[www.workersliberty.org](http://www.workersliberty.org)  
[awl@workersliberty.org](mailto:awl@workersliberty.org)  
**07796 690 874**  
**Facebook: Workers' Liberty**  
**Twitter: @workersliberty**

**Workers' Liberty is a revolutionary socialist organisation working in the labour movement, among students and in many other campaigns and struggles for a socialist alternative to capitalism.**

## **Jeremy Corbyn for Labour Leader campaign**

[www.jeremyforlabour.com](http://www.jeremyforlabour.com)  
[info@jeremyforlabour.com](mailto:info@jeremyforlabour.com)  
**0333 444 1945**  
**FB: Jeremy Corbyn for Labour Leader**  
**Twitter: @Corbyn4Leader**