

## **Declaration of solidarity of the European Ford Works Council with our colleagues in Brazil**

It is with surprise, concern and anger that we have taken note of the decision by Ford Motor Co. to close its manufacturing plants in Brazil.

With surprise, because at the beginning of December 2020, during the world meeting of Ford employee representatives with the top management, the top management had tried to allay the concerns of the Brazilian colleagues with relatively hopeful statements.

With concern, because we know that this decision would have dramatic social consequences for the people affected in Brazil and beyond. Not only the many thousands of colleagues directly employed by Ford will be deprived of the basis of their existence. Workers at suppliers, service providers, hauliers and others indirectly affected will also lose their incomes. IndustriAll Global Union estimates that a total of more than 70,000 jobs would be destroyed.

With concern, because this decision shows the radicalism with which the Ford company is prepared to put profitability and shareholder value above our social existence. We see - once again - what loyalty between company and workers is worth. The slogan "People First" is exposed in all its hypocrisy. This behavior makes us fear that some of the factories here in Europe will be the next victims of the "restructuring course".

With anger, because once again we workers are to pay the price for failed model policy, missed developments in technology, market and society and bad management. Many of these fatal decisions have been made despite warnings from and against the resistance of the workers and their representatives.

We call on Ford to reconsider the closure plan and to develop better plans for the workers.

We are trying to ensure that there will be an extraordinary session of the World Meeting of Ford Workers' Representatives with Jim Farley to discuss the issue.

Our thoughts are with you and your families. We wish you strength and success in your upcoming struggles with the company.

All the best and greetings of solidarity



(Martin Hennig)

for the Ford European Works Council