



## MEDIA ALERT

20 May 2022

**20 May: Day of International Solidarity with Russian anti-war activists!**

**Freedom for Dzhavid Mamedov and all anti-war activists!**

**For International Solidarity of the Working Class to Stop the War!**

**Picket to be held at:**

**Embassy of the Russian Federation**

**316 Brooks St, Menlo Park, Pretoria, 0081**

For two and a half months now, Putin's regime has been at war with Ukraine. Right from the start, tens of thousands of Russians have resisted and bravely spoken out against the war and regime, at serious risk of political persecution and arrest. During this time, more than 15,000 people have been detained, many facing police violence, torture, and lengthy imprisonment.

Dzhavid Mamedov is a socialist, anti-war activist, campaigner for women's and LGBTQ+ rights, student trade union organiser, and participant in the resistance to the Lukashenko regime in Belarus, and the Putin regime in Russia. Today, he is in prison after being arrested a third time for his anti-war stance. Now they are trying to fabricate a criminal case against Dzhavid, and his next arrest could land him a long prison sentence of between 5 and 10 years. He must be protected!

Dzhavid, is of course, not alone. Kirill Ukraintsev, leader of the recent Courier's strike and the editors of the student journal DOXA, which has taken a principled anti-war position are also arrested amongst many others. Now the Independent Union of Journalists [www.profbur.org](http://www.profbur.org), that has been defending those arrested and repressed is now being investigated for 'extremist activities'.

**GIWUSA is demanding that Dzhavid Mamedov and all anti-war protesters are released immediately.**

We are also calling for all working class and progressive formations to join the picket in Pretoria, and to send letters of protest addressed to the Russian ambassador, Ilya Igorevich Rogachev, on: [ruspospr@mweb.co.za](mailto:ruspospr@mweb.co.za)

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