

BÜRGERKOMITEE CONTINENTAL

Workers' Rights are Human Rights

The Bürgerkomitee Continental in Hanover/Germany (Workers' Rights Board) met on April 21 and with great concern heard reports from unionists from Mexico and the United States, i.a. about

- the illegal dismissal of independent and democratic unionists in the Continental plant in San Luis Potosi in Mexico and
- the drastic cuts in health care contributions for retirees of Continental plants in the United States, which are in violation of contractual obligations.

These forms of company wrongdoing jeopardize the foundations of all democratic communities as they are violations of human dignity. The Bürgerkomitee finds this corporate policy by Continental to be a serious violation of commonly accepted social and human rights.

Therefore we demand from Continental AG's management board, its supervisory board and its shareholder meeting, that Continental AG respects the obligations of its own Corporate Social Responsibility guidelines:

„Competitiveness today is no longer simply a question of growth and profitability, but also of social responsibility ...“

We specifically demand from Continental AG's management board that it

1. immediately reinstate the illegally dismissed unionists in San Luis Potosi;
2. respects the obligations towards Continental's retirees in the United States with regard to their health care;
3. respects independent and free unions at all locations of Continental AG worldwide.

Bürgerkomitee Continental

Dietrich Heimann, Former Director, School for Adult Education Hannover

Dietrich Höper, Association for Development Policy Lower Saxony

Christiane Hussels, Amnesty International

Prof. Dr. Manfred Schweres, Ergonomics Dep't, University of Hannover

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