

## **SOLIDARITY WITH THE DOUGLAS RODRIGUES OCCUPATION AFTER ENEL'S ENERGY CUT**

The undersigned trade unions declare their solidarity with the residents of the Douglas Rodrigues Occupation, located in Vila Maria - a neighbourhood in the northern part of the city of São Paulo, Brazil - and demand the immediate restoration of power supply to the two thousand people who live there.

On June 28<sup>th</sup> Enel, with the support of the Military Police, simply cut off the energy and removed the electric cables (bought by the residents) and left the families in the dark and cold. The Italian multinational company acquired the former state-owned *Eletropaulo Metropolitana* and since then the dialogue with the social movements has deteriorated.

The abrupt power cut is causing mothers, elderly people, children and the entire population living there to lose medicines (for example insulin) and food and to be without hot water for bathing and other necessities in the midst of the harsh winter in São Paulo and the Covid-19 pandemic that has so far killed more than 520,000 people in Brazil!

The Douglas Rodrigues Occupation has existed for eight years. The residents main request is that Enel regularizes the energy supply by integrating the neighbourhood into the grid, so that residents can pay electricity bills, but there was no real social dialogue to guarantee this right.

Therefore, we join this citizens' battle and demand Enel to restore power to the Douglas Rodrigues Occupation.

We support the struggle of the housing movements and in particular we stand in solidarity with the Independent Movement of Struggle for Housing of Vila Maria in face of this shameful situation.

People over profit!

São Paulo, July 2, 2021

**CTB/SP - Central dos Trabalhadores e Trabalhadoras do Brasil - São Paulo**

**CTB - Central dos Trabalhadores e Trabalhadoras do Brasil - Nacional**

**CUT/SP- Central Única dos Trabalhadores do Estado de São Paulo**

**CUT - Central Única dos Trabalhadores - Nacional**

**CNU - Confederação Nacional dos Urbanitários**

**FNU- Federação Nacional dos Urbanitários**

**FENATEMA - Federação Nacional dos Trabalhadores em Energia, Água e Meio Ambiente**

**ISP - Internacional de Serviços Públicos - Sub-regional Brasil**