

Resolution Date: 14th May 2019
Resolution Title: Celebrating Lyra McKee

This Branch sends solidarity to the National Union of Journalists on the death of Lyra McKee, a journalist worker killed when doing her job. We send condolences to her partner and family.

The Branch congratulates trade unionists who organised protests after the killing. It notes that the reaction shows the mass of Northern Irish people do not want to return to the years of political violence. Trade unionists in Northern Ireland, like Lyra, courageously campaign against sectarianism, paramilitarism and repression.

We celebrate Lyra as a powerful advocate for LGBTi rights, civil rights and human rights.

We celebrate her journalistic work, as showing empathy with the marginalised, and documenting how many have been left out in Northern Ireland's political process.

We note that, as a young gay woman in Northern Ireland, Lyra was denied the right available in the rest of the United Kingdom and Ireland – the right to marry the person she loved. In honour of Lyra.

In honour of Lyra, this branch commits this union to do what is in our power to make equal marriage available in Northern Ireland.

Branch also instructs the union to make a donation to the GoFundMe account to continue Lyra's legacy, and to forward this motion to the Regional Committee.