

Mobilization and repression: Political support, Actions from government services



March, 21 2013



March, 28 2013



April, 11 2013



June, 13 2013

Four days of mobilization at Astek Sud-Est, from March to June 2013.

Astek Sud-Est, a service company in computer engineering (SSII), is the second employer of Sophia Antipolis technopole, close to Nice. Almost 750 employees work there. It is also the main company of Groupe Astek. This accounts for twenty companies and around 2300 employees in France.

For several months, on four occasions, the employees were mobilized to ask respect of their rights, better working conditions, a clear and equal procedure related to reimbursements of expenses and a better distribution of the wealth created by the company.

In the end, more than 250 people moved to express their discontent during one of the 4 days of action. 59 employees went on strike at least once for a total of 46 days of strike ⁽¹⁾. These figures come from the declarations of strike made by the employees that sent us copies and are therefore underestimated. We deliver them as such.

The management remained insensitive for their claims and tried to dismiss two staff representatives.

Although the dismissal procedures were in the end dropped, the management neither restarted the social dialogue, nor ended repression. The two staff representatives involved will be brought in front of the Criminal Court of Grasse at the beginning of September.

Solidaires Informatique, who has been heavily involved in the mobilization, has contacted their elected politicians at all levels to denounce the lack of social dialogue and this unacceptable repression.

In fact, employees and their representatives can **alert the Labour Inspectorate** when serious labour law violations are recorded. Serious facts, such as the impossibility of a social dialogue or repression, linked to social movements or to staff representatives, must also interpellate the political representatives, responsible for the political life and citizens inside their geographic area of election.

¹ The **JINT** sums the number of « *individual days not worked* ». It's an indicator monitored by [DARES](http://dares.insee.fr) for measuring the amplitude of a social conflict.

Political support of all kinds... quick overview.

The persistent refusal to engage in social dialogue and repression on social movements have been denounced by political representatives. All have called for a **SOCIAL DIALOGUE** as inevitable as necessary.

Marc DAUNIS, Senator-Mayor of Valbonne.

Jean LEONETTI, President of the Urban Community of Sophia-Antipolis (CASA).

Noël ALBIN, Francis TUJAGUE, Jacques VICTOR, General Counsellor communist of Alpes-Maritimes.

Gérard PIEL, Regional Counsellor of Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur region.

Michel VAUZELLE, President of the Regional Council of Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur.

Arnaud MONTEBOURG, Minister for Industrial recovery.

Furthermore, the federation of political parties **Gauche Alternative** expressed their support, along with a political representative of **Gauche Unitaire**.



Which institutions, and which actions?

The deputy assistant to Arnaud Montebourg has indicated very clearly the goals to be reached quickly: **PUT A STOP TO REPRESSION AND OPEN SOCIAL DIALOGUE**. For him there is no alternative. He has also immediately put us in touch with his counterpart in the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Professional Training and Social Dialogue.

It is indeed, the **Labour Inspectorate**, and all of the services of **DIRECCTE** ⁽²⁾ that are concerned. Thus, Marc Daunis, Gerard Piel et Jean Leonetti have reached out with DIRECCTE first, then with the prefecture and sub-prefecture.

In fact, although the Labour Inspectorate has the necessary autonomy in its functions ⁽³⁾, however *priorities* and *means* depend on the policies set by the Department, and taken up and carried out by the Prefect.

Solidaires Informatique, through its union branch *SUD Astek*, has already met many political representatives and has received the attention of the Office of the Ministry of Labour. In addition, a meeting with the Sub-Prefect and the Director of Labour Departement is expected in a few days.

Lastly, Marc Daunis, who is engaged in a significant manner in setting up a social dialogue at Astek Sud-Est, has invited our General Director Mr Platano to meet him up... He has obtained a positive answer from Mr Jean-Luc Bernard, President of Astek Sud-Est.

The meeting should take place shortly!

2 Regional directorate for companies, competition, consumption, work and employment.

3 International Convention of the International Labour Organization (ILO) ratified for France in 1950.

You will find more details on our blog: motions, letters, invitations sent by the political representatives mentioned above...

As we can see, the social climate at Astek Sud-Est is a source of concerns for many social and political representatives. Our management remains, for now, silent in front of the legitimate revendications of the employees. How long can this position that generates tensions last?

Like in other SSII, the employees of Astek Sud-Est no longer accept their working conditions and want their company to evolve towards a more just and human model. The section *SUD Astek*, and *Solidaires informatique* in a more general way, try to induce this change against which our managers fight with all their means.

Our determination remains intact despite the intimidations of the management.

Today, we support the claims of the employees and defend their representatives faced with the attempts at intimidation of the management. We are already preparing the actions of tomorrow.

If you wish, you can also contribute to change, contact us.
It is only together that we will be stronger.

To live better at Astek is possible. Together and determined, we will succeed!

Tuesday 2nd July 2013

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ANNEXES: LETTERS, MOTIONS & DECLARATIONS.

Letter of Marc Daunis to Franck Platano

http://sudastek.free.fr/documents/Astek/Sophia_lettre_Daunis_Platano_20130605.pdf

Declaration of Marc Daunis addressed to the Astek employees

http://sudastek.free.fr/documents/Astek/Sophia_communique_Daunis_20130629.pdf

Motion of the communist representative at the General Council of Alpes-Maritimes

http://sudastek.free.fr/documents/Astek/CG06_declaration_groupe_communiste_conflit_social_Astek_Sud-Est_patrons_au_dessus_des_lois_280513.pdf

Letter of Gerard Piel to DIRECCTE, to Prefect and Sub-Prefect

http://sudastek.free.fr/documents/Astek/PACA_lettre_Piel_IT_20130607.pdf

Declaration from the confederation of political parties Gauche Alternative 06

http://sudastek.free.fr/documents/Astek/GA_droit_cite_syndicalisme_20130614.pdf

Other informations will be published on our blog following our meeting with the Sub-Prefect and the Labour General Director: <http://sudastek.free.fr/>