

Draft Motion – A worker-led transition

This motion is going to the UCU National Climate Conference on 15 Nov, please consider putting it to your union branch too. Ed

In July, 2024 workers at the GKN automotive engineering plant in Florence, Italy passed an incredible three years in permanent assembly – by some way the longest factory occupation in Italian history.

That would be historic enough in itself – but what started out as a standard industrial dispute to save jobs has transformed into a visionary rank and file worker led movement for just transition, with a reindustrialisation plan to move from producing parts for luxury cars, to solar panels and cargo bikes. All under workers control, and for the benefit of the community, not for profit. The Lucas Aerospace alternative plan offered an alternative industrial strategy. The GKN struggle has taken this forward and offers a real opportunity to take a workers-led transition to the next level.

We note that the TUC 2024 Congress passed a motion calling for ‘a year of green trade union activity including engagement with community and climate justice groups.’ This should include holding assemblies in all sectors and workplaces to begin planning just transitions from below, with an action plan to implement them.

This branch calls on the UCU to:

- Send a message of support to the ex-GKN workers at collettivo.gkn.firenze@gmail.com
- Share & show the **Reel News videos** about the GKN occupation at meetings
- Buy shares in the popular share issue at insorgiamo.org/100x10-000/
- Campaign for the TUC and Trades Union Councils to support the occupation by adopting the measures above.

