



Posłanie I Krajowego Zjazdu Delegatów NSZZ „Solidarność” do ludzi pracy Europy Wschodniej - Tekst angielski

Delegates¹ gathered in Gdańsk at the 1st Congress of the Independent Self-Governing Labour Union “Solidarity” send their greetings and expressions of support to the workers of Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Romania, Hungary and all nations of the Soviet Union.

As the first independent labour union in our post-war history, we deeply feel the community of our experiences. We assure that, contrary to the lies² spread in your countries, we are a real organisation of ten million workers established as a result of workers’ strikes. Our aim is to fight for improved living conditions for all working people. We support those of you who have decided to join the fight for a free union movement. We believe that your representatives and our representatives will soon meet to exchange their union experiences. Translated © by Jerzy Giebułtowski

¹ Almost 900 delegates debated in Gdańsk in two turns: from 5 to 10 September and from 26 September to 7 October 1981.

² Communist propaganda in Soviet bloc countries presented Solidarity as a group of irresponsible adventurers. According to the communist media, instead of work and production of goods necessary for the market, the activists of the Union were occupied with politicizing. Poles were also depicted as guilty of depleting supplies in shops in the German Democratic Republic or Czechoslovakia, from which they were said to take away precious goods.