



**Pedal4Progress 7<sup>th</sup> Edition Cycle Challenge  
'FORWARD LEFT - Solidarity with the Peoples of Europe'  
Maastricht - Ostend 18 – 20 / September 2019**

Dear Comrades,

On behalf of Pedal4Progress, the Communist Party of Britain's Cycling Collective, we extend warm solidarity greetings and invitation to join us on our next Cycling challenge to Ostend ahead of Manifiesta 2019 in Bredene (21 – 22 September).

Since 2013 Pedal4Progress have undertaken an annual cycling challenge to help raise money for many progressive causes, in particular the Morning Star newspaper with the aim of helping to boost circulation. In recent years we have worked closely with the DKP following the route of the former Peace Race, carried a gifted Miners Lamp from the National Union of Mineworkers to the Miners Museum in Bochum and couriered our Party's Solidarity message to participants at the recent DKP Peace Conference in Kiel. During our journey to Bochum and on to the Pressefest in Dortmund we met with representatives of the NCPN and undertook to make the 2019 edition a truly international event.

We already have commitment from riders from the DKP, CPB and NCPN (to be confirmed).

We now wish to extend our invitation to comrades from other Communist and Workers parties in a mix of cycling, politics and practical solidarity.

Our team of Eight CPB riders and 2 drivers will be arriving in Maastricht on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> we have pre-booked a number of rooms at the Hotel de la Bourse and will organise a briefing and reception for participants on arrival. The following day we will ride to Brussels where we intend to plan a public activity against the NATO aggression and the EU's commitment to expansion and militarisation in support of the alliance.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> accommodation in Brussels will be at the Generation Europe Youth Hostel and again we have booked additional rooms to accommodate international participants. On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> we then head to Ostend and the Manifiesta to celebrate international solidarity comrades and guests to the festival. Two nights' accommodation has been booked close to the festival site at Leopold Hotel Ostend before we all leave for our onward journeys.

Full details of routes and itinerary for the challenge will follow in the next few weeks. International comrades are welcome to share accommodation costs with the CPB team (approx. 40 Euro PPPN) or can make their own arrangements. Just let us know as soon as confirmation is made. Initial correspondence should be via Party international Secretary's to ensure we observe protocol and are confident riders are endorsed by their organisation.

We recommend riders use road bikes but this is not compulsory as long as the bike is in good working order. Riders should be self-sufficient and able to carry out minor repairs they should have a reasonable level of fitness, able to ride 200Km over the two days and maintain an average moving speed of around 24Km per hour.

This all sounds very formal but in reality we are a very inclusive group. We operate a 'No Drop' policy, make regular feed stops and are supported by van and drivers who carry all kit, supplies and any spares we



## Communist Party Executive Committee

may need.

At a time when workers across Europe are in need of a forward thinking left strategy to counter policies of austerity and the erosion of worker's rights Pedal4Progress hope your Party organisation can support our efforts to engage in practical solidarity by reaching out to members on our behalf and encouraging their participation.

In solidarity

Les Doherty  
Pedal for Progress Organiser