

## The divisive and punitive Trade Union Act proves that the Tories cannot be trusted on workers' rights

This week, the Government will attempt to push some of the most controversial components of the Trade Union Act through Parliament. The move comes in the same week that the Government are asking us to trust them to protect workers' rights through Brexit.

A series of provisions will impose strict rules on picketing and undermine the right to strike for millions of UK citizens. Yet, alarmingly, these changes are being introduced as secondary legislation, which will limit the opportunity for scrutiny and debate in Parliament.

Labour will strongly oppose these measures, as it has the entire Trade Union Act.

Jack Dromey MP, Shadow Minister for Labour, said:

"In an increasingly insecure world of work, Labour remains fundamentally opposed to restrictions that will limit the rights of millions of ordinary working people to strike.

"Unions are always careful in taking industrial action never to put at risk life and limb, offering essential coverage and initiating industrial action only as a matter of last resort.

"Theresa May talks of the Tories as the party of the working class. Yet in a country where trade unions are already heavily regulated, she wants yet further restrictions to rob workers of their right to take industrial action, leaving workers all too often badly treated and essentially powerless."

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## The Government must listen to this stark warning from the LGA that councils can no longer meet either their duties or the spirit of the Care Act – Keeley

Commenting

on the LGA warning that the Care Act faces failure without new funding, **Barbara Keeley, Labour's Shadow Cabinet Member for Social Care, said:**

"It is time that Tory Ministers accepted that the social care crisis is caused by insufficient funding in the face of growing demand. Ministers have ignored repeated warnings from leaders and professionals in the health and care sectors about the impact of the £4.6 billion of cuts made to Adult Social Care budgets since 2010.

"It is deeply worrying that councils are now having to spell out the risks that this lack of funding is causing. We should not tolerate the fact that growing levels of basic needs are going unmet, care visits are shorter and there is increased strain on unpaid family carers.

"The Government must listen to this stark warning from the LGA that councils can no longer meet either their duties or the spirit of the Care Act. Now is the time for the Government to bring forward genuinely new funding for social care to protect the vital services that older and disabled people need."

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## **We won't pander to the will of this Tory government to chip away at hard won progress on equality – Champion**

Today Labour has tabled a targeted amendment to the Article 50 Bill (the European Union [Notification of Withdrawal] Bill).

The amendment seeks to ensure Parliament is able to hold the Government to account throughout the Brexit negotiations on the impact of decisions on women and those with protected characteristics.

Sarah Champion, Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for Women and Equalities said:

"Labour has a long record of championing and protecting equal rights and we will hold the government to account using the Equality Act brought in by the last Labour government.

"Whilst we respect the will of the British people, we won't pander to the will of this Tory government to chip away at hard won progress on equality."

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## Theresa May's industrial strategy is little more than window-dressing for continued managed decline under the Tories – Onwurah

Responding to the Fabian Society's report "At the crossroads: the future of British retail", Chi Onwurah, Labour's Shadow Business Minister said:

"This is further evidence that Theresa May's industrial strategy is little more than window-dressing for continued managed decline under the Tories. Last week's Green Paper had almost nothing to say about retail, and this report underlines the failure of this Government to respond to urgent challenges such as automation and low productivity.

"It's clear that this Government's tactic of cherry-picking favoured sectors for backroom deals is leaving the vast majority of British workers out in the cold. Labour's industrial strategy will take a whole-economy approach to build a high-wage, high-growth Britain that genuinely works for everyone."

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## Jeremy Corbyn letter to Theresa May calling for her to withdraw offer of State Visit to Donald Trump

**Jeremy**

**Corbyn MP, Leader of the Labour Party**, calling on Theresa May to withdraw her offer to Donald Trump of a State Visit, said:

"Let

no one be in doubt that I will oppose, and the Labour Party will oppose, all those who fan the flames of fear at home and abroad.

"I support the demand of millions of British people: Donald Trump should not be welcomed on a state visit to this country while he continues to propagate his anti-women, anti-Muslim and anti-Mexican policies.

"This world defeated segregation, we defeated Apartheid and we will defeat this

nasty  
policy created to sow division and hatred.

"His  
invite should be withdrawn until the executive orders are gone and every  
element of them repealed.

"History  
judges us by the actions we take in opposing oppression.

"I  
am proud that during the 1980s and 1990s I stood with Labour party members,  
trade unionists and faith leaders opposing the racist regime of South Africa.

"I  
was there on the day Margret Thatcher opened her door to P.W. Botha while  
Nelson Mandela languished in a prison cell.

"Margaret  
Thatcher and the Conservative Party were on the wrong side of history then  
just  
as Theresa May and her Conservative Party are on the wrong side of history  
today.

"The  
Labour party stands unequivocally with those demonstrating today and will do  
so  
until we are victorious.

"I  
have written to Theresa May to demand that she withdraws her offer to Donald  
Trump of a State Visit."