

International Longshoremen's Association, Local 273



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February 20, 2025

Mr. Martin Berg
Chairman
Swedish Dockworker Union
Gothenburg
Sweden

Dear Chairman Martin,

We are appalled here in Canada to have knowledge of the firing of Swedish Dockworkers Deputy Chairman Erik Helgeson.

We understand that Erik was following the will of the membership in speaking out against the shipping of military cargo to and from Israel and supporting the Swedish Dockworkers boycott of this cargo.

ILA Local 273 condemns Det Forenede Dampskibs-Selskab (literally the United Steamship Company) for the firing of Erik Helgeson on the same day that Sweden's Labour Courts upheld the legality of the union's six day boycott of military cargo to and from Israel in response to the genocide in Gaza.

Dockworkers around the world will not be intimidated by the rogue behaviour of DFDS.

ILA Local 273 is offering any support that it can to reinstate our comrade Erik Helgeson.

Should you need any clarification on this matter please do not hesitate to contact us.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Terry Wilson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the "T" across the line.

Terry Wilson
President
ILA Local 273