

Statement of Solidarity

26rd May 2026

The Steering Committee of the People's Health Movement (PHM) was informed that the Greek government is prosecuting three academics and members of the board of the **Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH) Faculty Union** with unprecedented and serious charges. They are accused, as unionists, recently of having participated in a student demonstration against the new regulatory framework governing the AUTH dormitories. Up to now university dormitories in Greece are still public and free of charge, hosting the most financially vulnerable students on campus. The new regulatory framework severely restricts students' rights and shifts repairing costs onto these already financially constrained students.

The prosecution of the **President of the Union, Associate Professor Elias Kondilis**, member of PHM, and **Professors Dimitris Raptakis and Sotiris Sotiropoulos members of the Union's Board**, is the first case in Greece involving academics prosecuted under the new disciplinary legal framework passed by the Greek Government last summer. This is the first implementation of this legal framework against the above academics who are prosecuted by the police branch "against racist and extremist violence".

Unfortunately, this case is only a sample of the ongoing implementation of disciplinary and antidemocratic policies in the universities in Europe and all over the world.

Many academics in both secondary and higher education are losing their jobs for condemning the genocide in Gaza, criticizing the commercialization of higher education, or refusing to participate in military research projects within their institutions.

As members of the Steering Committee of the People's Health Movement we can not accept this trend towards antidemocratic barbarism.

We express our solidarity with the three prosecuted Greek academics and demand the **immediate cessation of all legal action against them**.