Worker Protest in
Pearl River Delta, China

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1\textsuperscript{st} wave: Pearl River Delta (Dongguan, Zhongshan, etc.)

2\textsuperscript{nd} wave: Yangtze River Delta (Suzhou, Changzhou, etc.)

3\textsuperscript{rd} wave: Central-West industrial base (Chongqing, Wuhan, etc.)
Who are the workers in export processing zones?

- Majority of factory workers are internal-migrants in China: migrating from rural area to urban area for work.
- *Hukou* (household registration) system denied equal social welfare and civil rights of these de facto migrant workers.
  - 1995: Labour Law
  - 2008: Labour Contract Law, Social Insurance Law, etc.
Myth: Chinese Workers Love Overtime?

- Chinese law says 40 hr/week, and regulates OT. Yet factories report that workers will protest if monthly OT goes under 80 hours.
- Long working hour is typical: 10-12 hr/day, 6 day/week, rotating day and night shifts.
- Why? Because the pay is too low!
• Strikes concentrated in Pearl River Delta (PRD), where our programme will be.
• Strikes in PRD: triggered by government directed industry relocation.
• Source: China Labour Bulletin website
"The New Norm" of China

![Graph of China's industrial production](image1)

**China's GDP growth between 2004-2014**

(Source: National Bureau of Statistics)

![Bar chart of China's secondary and tertiary industries ratio](image2)

**China's Secondary and Tertiary industries ratio 2004-2014**

Source: National Bureau of Statistics

Reported by CCTV: [http://news.cntv.cn/2014/05/11/ARTI1407636275712964.shtml](http://news.cntv.cn/2014/05/11/ARTI1407636275712964.shtml)
UNIQLO AND LEMAIRE

Zeitlos elegante Klassiker für jeden Tag, hergestellt aus sorgfältig ausgewählten Materialien.

Diese Kollektion symbolisiert mit noch mehr Stil angereicherte LifeWear, die den Bedürfnissen unserer Kunden entspricht.

Global Solidarity action to support Artigas workers strongly condemn Uniqlo for disregarding workers’ rights
American Unionists Join Chinese Uniqlo Workers’ Campaign for End to Alleged Abuse

BY MICHAEL ARRIA
Violent Suppression from the Factory and the Government Workers Representatives were being imprisoned

13th July (Mon): Different labor organizations and labor unions presented a petition to Uniqlo, demanding the company to fulfill their social corporate responsibility, to intervene the Artigas workers’ strike. In the same day, the factory issued an ultimatum to the workers, and stated that they will cut off the water and electricity supply.

15th July (Wed): Local police assisted the factory to move the equipment on the day of global solidarity action. **The police arrested 7 workers’ rep, apprehended some workers and onlookers.**

17th July (Fri): Some workers’ rep were released after they were forced to sign the proclamation under the suppression of the system. **6 workers were still being detained and possibly charged by “Disturbing social order on production” offences.**

19th July (Sun): Workers’ relatives tried to look into the case, the police broke his word and stated that he couldn’t decide alone.

14th July (Tue): Shenzhen police station arrested **4 workers’ rep and took them into custody overnight.**

16th July (Thurs): **Lever Style colluded with local police to evict the workers violently.** The company even sent somebody to the workers’ place, to intimidate them to take the compensation and stop defending their rights by signing a

18th July (Sat): Relatives of workers’ rep being arrested went to Public Security Bureau. **The police revealed the workers’ rep will be released, if all the workers sign and accept the compensation.**

20th July (Mon): More workers signed the proclamation under the pressure of the state and the factory owner, some were forced to sign as they worried about the arrested workers’ rep. **Over 60 workers still refused to sign the proclamation determinedly.**